

ARMY



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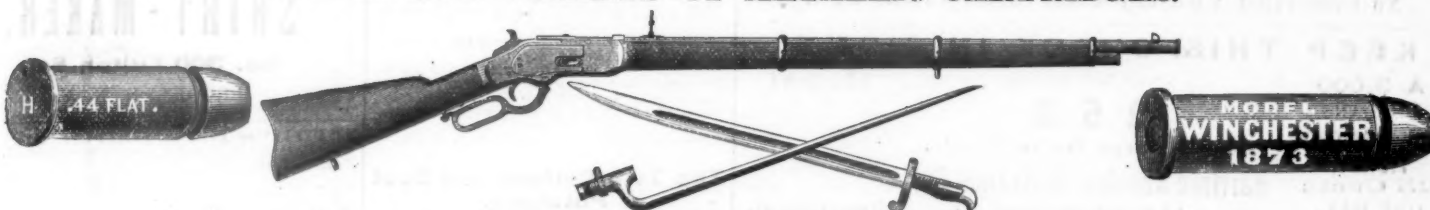


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Gettysburg, p.	4th	2	518	Lt.-Comdr. F. M. Green.	St. Thomas, Jan. 11.	Rose, s.	4th	2	62	Mate John Oden'hal.	Tug, Pensacola.	
Hartford, s.	2nd	18	3000	Capt. Stephen B. Luce.	Flag-s., N. A. Sta., Port Royal, S. C.	SAUCUS, s.	4th	2	550	Comdr. Fred. R. Smith.	N. A. Sta., Pensacola.	
Huron, s.	3rd	4	450	Comdr. C. C. Carpenter.	N. A. Sta., Port Royal, S. C.	SAGO, s.	3rd	3	410	Comdr. Chas. S. McDougall.	Asiatic Sta., Yokohama.	
Independence, s.	2nd	22	1891	Capt. Thos. Patterson.	Receiving Ship, Mare Island, Cal.	Sabine, s.	3rd	22	1475	Comdr. A. R. Yates.	Receiving Ship, Portsmouth, N. H.	
Intrepid, s.	4th	8	830	Comdr. C. L. Huntington.	Tug, New York.	Santa, s.	3rd	48	1475	Lt.-Comdr. Merrill Miller.	Gunnery Ship, Naval Academy.	
Juniata, s.	3rd	8	838	Comdr. S. Dana Greene.	Baltimore.	Shawmut, s.	3rd	3	410	Comdr. G. C. Witte.	Pensacola, Fla.	
Kearsarge, s.	3rd	6	696	Comdr. F. V. McNair.	Asiatic Sta. Nagasaki.	Speedwell, s.	4th	306	Lieut. T. M. Gardner.	Tug, Portsmouth, N. H.		
Lackawanna, s.	2nd	10	1028	Comdr. James A. Greer.	Left Mare Island, Cal., Jan. 21.	St. Louis, s.	3rd	16	431	Comdr. Byron Wilson.	Receiving Ship, League Island, Pa.	
LEHIGH, s.	4th	1	496	Comdr. G. A. Stevens.	Norfolk.	St. Marys, s.	3rd	16	766	Comdr. Robt. L. Phythian.	School Ship, New York.	
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Michigan, p.	3rd	8	450	Comdr. J. H. Gillis.	Spec. Serv., Marquette.	Tennessee, s.	2nd	23	2135	Capt. W. W. Low.	Asiatic Sta., Nagasaki.	
Minnesota, s.	1st	46	3000	Captain A. W. Johnson.	Flag-s., New York.	Triana, s.	4th	2	306	Mate Lewis G. Cook.	Tug, Annapolis, Md.	
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Monocacy, p.	3rd	6	747	Comdr. Joseph P. Fyffe.	Pensacola, Fla.	Wabash, s.	4th	1	45	3000	Capt. Milton Haxtun.	Port Royal, S. C.
Monongahela, s.	2nd	11	900	Capt. Lewis A. Kimberly.	Pensacola, Fla.	Worcester, s.	2nd	15	3000	Capt. Ralph Chandler.	Receiving-ship, Boston.	
Nantucket, s.	4th	2	496	Comdr. E. C. Merriman.	N. A. Sta., Norfolk.	Wyandotte, s.	4th	2	550	Comdr. Chas. H. Cushman.	Receiving-ship, Norfolk, Va.	
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s indicates a propeller; p a side wheel steamer.



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VOLUME XIII.—NUMBER 32.
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G. O. No. 10, WASHINGTON, Feb. 12, 1876.

General Orders No. 18, Quartermaster-General's Office, March 10, 1875, is hereby revoked. A statement will be made quarterly by all officers making payments from appropriation for Army Transportation, in accordance with Form hereto attached. (We omit the Form.—ED. JOURNAL.) Officers of the Quartermaster's Department in charge of General Depots established by G. O. No. 32, Headquarters of the Army, April 8, 1869, will forward these Statements to the Quartermaster-General's Office within ten days after the end of each quarter. Other officers will prepare and forward them to the Chief Quartermasters of the respective Mil. Departments, by whom they will be made into consolidated reports for each Department, and forwarded through the Chief Quartermasters of the respective Military Divisions to the Quartermaster-General's Office, Transportation Branch, within twenty days after the end of each quarter, or as early thereafter as possible.

G. O. No. 15, WASHINGTON, Feb. 28, 1876.

The subjoined report of the Board of Officers appointed by Par. 3, S. O. No. 264, Dec. 27, 1875, from this office, relative to the "galvanized iron feed-box," has been approved by the Secretary of War, and is published for the information and guidance of all concerned. These feed-boxes will be supplied by the Quartermaster's Department upon proper requisition.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., February 8, 1876.

The Board convened at Philadelphia, Pa., by virtue of Par. 3, S. O. No. 264, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, dated Dec. 27, 1875, having examined the "galvanized iron feed-box," and read all the papers submitted in relation thereto, and having fully discussed and considered the subject, begs leave to submit the following—

REPORT.

The Board (see signatures in G. O. No. 17) is of opinion that the "galvanized iron feed-box" recommended by Col. Nelson H. Davis, Inspector-General, U. S. Army, will prove of use for posts where there is a scarcity of lumber for cantonments, for temporary stables, and to some extent for wagon and escort trains, and recommends its adoption for such purposes as it may be found advantageous.

G. O. No. 17, WASHINGTON, March 1, 1876.

The subjoined report of the Board of Officers appointed by Par. 3, S. O. No. 264, Dec. 27, 1875, from this office, embracing specifications as to size, age, etc., to govern in the purchase of mules and horses for Army use, has been approved by the Secretary of War, and is published for the information and guid-

ance of all concerned, together with the "specifications for work-horses" appended thereto.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., February 10, 1876.

The Board convened at Philadelphia, Pa., by virtue of Par. 3, S. O. No. 264, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, dated Dec. 27, 1875, having investigated the question "as to the advisability of any change or modifications in the existing regulations as to size, age, etc., of mules and horses purchased for Army use," and having read all the papers submitted in relation thereto, and having fully discussed and considered the subject, begs to submit the following—

REPORT.

The Board is of opinion that slight changes and modifications in the existing regulations as to size, age, etc., of mules and horses for Army use are advisable, and recommends that the following specifications be adopted and govern in the purchase of horses and mules:

Cavalry Horses.—To be geldings, of hardy colors, sound in all particulars, in good condition, well broken to the saddle, from 15 to 16 hands high, not less than 5 nor more than 9 years old, and suitable in every respect for Cavalry service.

Artillery Horses.—To be geldings, of hardy colors, sound in all particulars, in good condition, square trotters, well broken to the harness, from 15 to 16 hands high, not less than 5 nor more than 9 years old, and suitable in every respect for Artillery service.

Mules.—To be strong, stout, compact animals, sound in all particulars, in good condition, well broken to harness, not under 14 hands high, not less than 4 nor more than 9 years old, and suitable in every respect for the transportation service of the Army.

For pack purposes the standard of height may be reduced to 13½ hands, if the animal be in other respects suitable. The pack-mule need not necessarily be broken to harness.

D. H. RUCKEN, Asst. Q. M.-Gen.

H. M. BLACK, Lt.-Col. 18th Inf., Bvt. Maj.-Gen. U. S. A., President.

W. B. ROYALL, Lt.-Col. 3d Cav., Bvt. Col. U. S. A.

A. C. WILDRICK, Capt. 3d Art., Bvt. Lt.-Col. U. S. A.

J. G. C. LEE, Capt. and Asst. Q. M.

Bvt. Lt.-Col. U. S. A., Recorder.

Specifications for Work-horses.

When work-horses are to be purchased they should be sound in all particulars, fifteen and one-half hands high and upwards, strong built, well broken to work in harness, not less than four nor more than nine years old.

G. O. No. 18, WASHINGTON, March 4, 1876.

The Second Comptroller's construction of section 1284, Revised Statutes, establishes the following rule for determining the rate of "additional pay for length of service" to soldiers who have been continuously in service since August 4, 1849, or from a date prior thereto: The time served prior to August 4, 1854, whether five years or more, can count for one enlistment only, and entitles the soldier, on and after that date, to two dollars per month additional pay. Further increase of one dollar per month for service subsequent to August 4, 1854, must be estimated on the basis of five-year periods, calculated from that date. Under this rule the soldier is entitled to additional pay per month as follows: From August 4, 1854, to August 3, 1859, \$2; August 4, 1859, to August 3, 1864, \$3; August 4, 1864, to August 3, 1869, \$4; and so on, at the rate of \$1 more per month for each further period of five years. So that at this date and until August 4, 1879, no soldier now in service can be entitled to receive "additional pay for length of service" under the section cited (Act of August 4, 1854) in excess of \$6 per month. It is not proposed to disturb payments conflicting with this basis made in accordance with past practice prior to April 30, 1876; but musters of date and subsequent date will be made in strict accordance with the rule stated above. To secure uniformity of action, hereafter when enlisted men are discharged by expiration of term of service the discharge will be given on the day of the month corresponding with that of their enlistment—i. e., if a man was enlisted on the 1st day of January, 1875, for five years he should be discharged on the 1st day of January, 1880. If the soldier desires to re-enlist without losing a day's pay, he must re-enlist on the day he is discharged.

G. O. No. 19, WASHINGTON, March 7, 1876.

Publishes the Act approved Feb. 16, 1876, appropriating one million and a half for the Centennial Exhibition, at Philadelphia.

No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's Office, on Saturday, March 11, 1876.

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 11, 1876.

Post Chaplain David W. Eakins—Died March 5, 1876, at Philadelphia, Pa.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

Troops reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 11, 1876:

Companies E and L, 7th Cavalry, from Fort Totten, D. T., to Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.
Company C, 17th Infantry, from Fort Wadsworth, D. T., to Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.
Company B, 24th Infantry, from Ringgold Barracks, Texas, to Fort McIntosh, Texas.

G. C.-M. O., W. D., A.-G. O.

G. C.-M. O. No. 26, Washington, March 4, 1876.—Before a G. C.-M. at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, Feb. 9, and of which First Lieutenant John Harold, 19th Infantry, is president, were tried: Edward Hock, A. Permanent Party, General Recruiting Service, U. S. Army. Charge—"Desertion." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Dishonorable discharge and hard labor for two years." Thomas Trainor, L. 4th Cavalry. Charge—"Desertion." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Dishonorably discharged and hard labor for two years." James Owens, B. 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry. Charge—"Desertion." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Dishonorable discharge and hard labor for two years." Solomon Hirschberg, E. Recruits U. S. Army. Charge—"Violation of the 46th Article of War." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Hard labor in charge of guard for three months, and eight dollars per month for same period." Newton Tice, I. 2d Cavalry. Charge—"Desertion." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Dishonorable discharge and hard labor for one year." All approved. In the case of Private

Trainor the term of confinement is reduced to one year. So much of the sentences in the cases of Private Hock, Trainor, Owens and Tice as relates to hard labor will be carried into execution at the Leavenworth Military Prison.

G. C.-M. O. No. 27, Washington, March 6, 1876.—In the case of Frank Feuerstein, late G. 14th Infantry, now undergoing execution of sentence of G. C.-M., upon recommendation of the Judge-Advocate-General, the term of confinement is reduced to three years.

G. C.-M. O. No. 28, Washington, March 7, 1876.—Before a G. C.-M. at Newport Barracks, Ky., October 15, 1875, and of which Major Edwin C. Mason, 21st Infantry, is president, was tried: Musician Thomas Holmes, F. 16th Infantry. Charge—"Desertion." Finding—"Guilty." Sentence, "Dishonorable discharge." The court is thus lenient in consideration of the apparent ill health of the prisoner." Approved.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Post Adjutants of D. Platte will be accountable hereafter for the reconnoitering and drawing instruments issued to posts. When relieved they will transfer these instruments to their successors. They will make timely requisitions on the Engineer officer for note-books and drawing materials necessary for a strict compliance, in all marches or movements of troops, with the requirements of the Circular of June 6, 1873, from the Headquarters of the Army. When a detachment does not return to the post which it left, the reconnoitering instruments used with it will, at the end of its march, be returned without unnecessary delay to the point from which they were taken. When an instrument becomes unserviceable it will be sent as soon as practicable to the Engineer officer for repair or renewal. The mounted copies of the map of the Military Departments and Posts of the United States, and of the Territory of the United States west of the Mississippi, will be kept at the posts to which issued, and will be accounted for by Post Adjutants on their quarterly returns of Engineer property. Applications for maps for the official or personal use of officers will be made to the Engineer officer.

Major O. D. Greene, A. A. G., Dept. Gulf, was ordered to accompany General Angur on an official tour of inspection of Forts St. Philip, Jackson, and Livingston (S. O. 46, D. Gulf).

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. Jones was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic during the week ending March 14. Major Elisha H. Ludington, A. L.-G., was ordered March 11 to report for duty to the commanding general Department of the Platte (S. O. 44, M. D. Atlantic). Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Jones is announced as Inspector-General Military Division of the Atlantic, to take effect from the 10th March (G. O. 15, M. D. Atlantic).

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Par. 3, Circular of Nov. 20, 1875, from Hdqrs D. Mo., was March 2 revoked, and instead of forwarding semi-annual and quarterly estimates for quartermaster's stores the post quartermasters will forward annual estimates, as directed in par. 3 of the same Circular (Circular). The attention of post quartermasters is called by Circular, Dept. Missouri, March 4, to the laws and orders requiring that funds received from sales of public property be at once deposited with the nearest United States Depository, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States. Such funds may be sent by express, and the cost of their transportation prepaid from the proceeds of the sales. At posts where there is no communication by express, post quartermasters may, upon the visit of a paymaster to their posts, exchange the funds for a draft by the paymaster, drawn to the order of the depository, and forward the same by mail to the said depository. If neither of the foregoing modes of transmission are available, or if the post quartermaster prefers it, and he has at the depository funds to his credit in amount equal to the funds received from sales which he desires to deposit, he may use the funds on hand, for disbursement at his post, and effect the transfer to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, by his own check, drawn to the order of the depository, to be sent by mail to the said depository, for the purpose stated. After the funds are sent for deposit and until the certificate of deposit is received, the funds should be reported on weekly and monthly statements of balances, as "in transitu," and should be dropped from such statements and from the account current when the certificate of deposit is received. [Vide Sec. 5, Act of May 8, 1872. Sec. 1, Act of June 8, 1872 (G. O. No. 81, A. G. O., 1872). Circular April 12, A. G. O., 1873, and G. O. Nos. 10, 20, and 31, A. G. O., 1874].

Captain A. J. McGonnigle, A. Q. M., was March 9 re-assigned to duty, as Depot Quartermaster, in New Orleans (S. O. 45, D. Gulf). Major J. A. Potter, Chief Quartermaster, Dept. Gulf, was ordered March 9 to accompany General Angur on a tour of inspection through Forts St. Philip, Jackson, and Livingston (S. O. 46, D. Gulf). Circular Letter No. 3, D. Gulf, publishes a letter from Major Potter, Dept. Q. M., stating that, "In making special requisitions for Quartermaster's stores and for camp and garrison equipage, the habit extensively prevails with Post Quartermasters to combine in one requisition the two classes of supplies. This is in violation of orders and regulations, and

should not be permitted." In future articles classed as Quartermaster's stores, and those classed as camp and garrison equipage, will be estimated for separately by Post Quartermasters.

Captain J. M. Marshall, A. Q. M., was ordered March 9 to relieve, temporarily, Captain E. B. Kirk, A. Q. M., at Fort Dodge, Kas. (S. O. 44, D. Mo.) Major James Belger is detailed president of G. C. M. at McPherson Barracks, Ga., March 14.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

By authority of the War Department, permission was Feb. 26 given to ship from San Francisco, Cal., to Alaska Territory, sundry wines for church purposes, and spirituous liquors for medicinal purposes, to various priests in Alaska (S. O. 20, M. D. Pacific).

Captain Thomas Wilson, C. S., will report to Department of Arizona for temporary duty as Chief Commissary of Subsistence of that Department (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9).

Captain Samuel T. Cushing, Chief Commissary of the Department, was ordered March 10 to Lancaster, Ky., under special instructions (S. O. 35, D. South). On March 11 order was rescinded (S. O. 36, D. South).

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Assistant Surgeon Stevens D. Cowdrey is detailed a member of G. C. M. at Jackson Barracks, La., March 8. A. A. Surgeon W. H. Carson, U. S. Army, was March 6 assigned to duty at Couchatta, La. (S. O. 45, D. Gulf.) Assistant Surgeon John Brooke is detailed a member of G. C. M. at Raleigh, N. C., March 13. Assistant Surgeon Charles R. Greenleaf is detailed a member of G. C. M. at Nashville, Tenn., March 9.

A. A. Surgeon D. Walker was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Pacific during two weeks ending Feb. 29.

Assistant Surgeon H. S. Kilbourne was March 10 detailed as Judge-Advocate of G. C. M. at Fort Hays, Kas. (S. O. 45, D. Mo.)

A. A. Surgeon Joseph S. Martin was March 4 assigned to Fort Union, N. M. (S. O. 23, D. N. M.) The leave of absence granted Surgeon John J. Milhau, September 1, 1875, is extended four months. Hospital Steward Judson J. Rogers, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty in the Department of the Platte and will report to Military Div. of the Atlantic for duty (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 13).

PAY DEPARTMENT.

Major Willard will make payments at Forts Craig, McRae, Stanton, Selden, and Bayard, N. M., to Feb. 29. Major Towar will make payments at Forts Marcy, Wingate, Union, N. M., and Garland, C. T. (S. O. 21, D. N. M.) The following named officers were ordered March 3 to pay the troops at posts and stations Dept. California, to the 29th Feb.: Major J. H. Nelson, at Camp Independence, Fort Yuma, and San Diego, Cal.; Major C. W. Wingard, at Camp Bidwell, Cal., and Camps McDermit and Halleck, Nev.; Major J. A. Broadhead, at posts in the harbor of San Francisco, Benicia Barracks and Arsenal, and Camp Gaston, Cal. (S. O. 21, D. Cal.) The journey performed by Major F. M. Cox, Paymaster U. S. Army, in accordance with verbal instructions of the Department commander, to New Orleans, La., via Galveston, Texas, and return, for the purpose of procuring funds, under instructions from the Chief Paymaster of the Department, is approved (S. O. 39, D. Texas, March 6).

Leave of absence for seven days was March 9 granted Major Rodney Smith, St. Paul, Minn. (S. O. 32, D. Dakota.)

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

Sidney Barracks, Forts McPherson, Sanders, Fred. Steele, D. A. Russell, Laramie, and Fetterman, and Camps Robinson and Brown, are designated as the cavalry stations in Department of the Platte, at which ammunition and the smaller supplies of ordnance stores, such as horse brushes, nose-bags, saddle-blankets, etc., of current demand and not of perishable nature, can be kept in excess of immediate wants, for transfer to officers (G. O. 6, D. Platte, Feb. 28.) Commanding officers of posts in Dept. of Platte will hereafter make monthly statements of arms and equipments, with the amount of ammunition on hand. This statement will also show the names of the officers responsible for the stores. Officers who may have rifles, carbines, or pistols, calibre 45, which have been rendered unserviceable by firing, will, until further orders, send such arms to the Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department, with a report giving time, place and cause of the damage as far as known. Especial pains will be taken to ascertain whether the accident did not result from sand, mud, or other obstruction in the bore at the time of firing. The responsibility for all such damages will be fixed by a Board of Survey before the arms are turned in. Samples of such ammunition, calibre 45, as may prove defective, will also be sent to the Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department, with a similar report (G. O. 7, D. Platte, Feb. 29).

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Captain Wm. S. Stanton, Chief Engineer Officer, Department of Platte, was ordered March 10 to Fort Laramie, W. T., for consultation with the Board of Officers, ordered to convene at that post on March 15 (S. O. 31, D. Platte).

1st Cavalry, Colonel CUIVER GROVER—Headquarters, Benicia Barracks, Cal.; A. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; B. Fort Klamath, Oregon; C. Camp McDermit, Nev.; G. San Diego, Cal.; E. L. H. Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.; F. Fort Lapwai, I. T.; I. Camp Halleck, Nev.; K. Camp Harney, Or.; M. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. Presidio, Cal.

Colonel Cuiver Grover was March 6 relieved from duty at Department Headquarters, to enable him to take advantage of the leave of absence granted him (S. O. 28, D. Platte).

First Lieutenants Alexander O. Brodie and Edward Hunter were registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Pacific during two weeks ending Feb. 29.

Colonel C. Grover was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic during the week ending March 14.

Captain Edwin V. Sumner is detailed president of G. C. M. at Alcatraz Island, Cal., March 9.

3rd Cavalry, Colonel J. J. REYNOLDS.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. F. M. Fort D. A. Russell, Wy. T.; B. H. L. Fort McPherson, Neb.; C. G. I. Sidney Barracks, Neb.; K. Camp Sheridan, Neb.

Captain Frederick Van Vliet, First Lieutenant A. H. Von Luttwitz, and Second Lieutenant James E. H. Foster are detailed members, and Second Lieutenant George F. Chase J.-A. of G. C. M. at Cheyenne Depot, March 13.

4th Cavalry, Colonel R. S. MCKENZIE.—Headquarters, and A. D. F. H. L. E. Fort Sill, I. T.; B. L. Fort Reno, I. T.; C. E. G. M. Fort Elliott, Tex.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick D. Grant, A. D. C., was ordered March 10 to Fort Randall, to the Lower Brule Agency, and, if found practicable, to Cheyenne Agency, D. T., on business connected with the public service. On completion of the duty assigned him, Lieutenant-Colonel Grant will return to Division Headquarters (S. O. 24, M. D. Mo.)

The location of the officers of this regiment, as given in the March roster, Department of the Missouri, was as follows:

Fort Sill, Ind. T.: Colonel R. S. Mackenzie; Major J. K. Mizer; First Lieutenant and Adjutant W. C. Miller; First Lieutenant and A. D. C. M. D. A. Irwin; A. Q. M., and A. C. S.: First Lieutenant W. A. Thompson (A); Second Lieutenant Alexander Rodgers (A); Captain John Lee (D); Captain S. Gunther (H); First Lieutenant H. Sweeney (H); Second Lieutenant J. H. Dorst (H); Captain N. B. McLaughlin (I); Second Lieutenant M. Leeper, Jr. (I); Captain E. M. Heyl (K); Fort Elliott, Tex. (Late Cantonment on Sweetwater): Captain J. A. Wilcox (C); Second Lieutenant C. A. P. Hatfield (C); First Lieutenant C. M. Callahan (E); Second Lieutenant H. H. Bellas (E); Second Lieutenant A. C. Tyler (G); Captain W. O'Connell (M); Second Lieutenant H. G. Otis (M); Fort Reno, I. T. (Late Camp near Cheyenne Agency): Captain Clarence Mauck (B); Second Lieutenant J. W. Martin (B); Captain T. J. Wint (L); First Lieutenant Lewis Warrington (L); Second Lieutenant A. E. Wood (L); Absent With Leave: First Lieutenant O. W. Budd (I); First Lieutenant H. H. Crews (K); Second Lieutenant J. A. McKimney (K); Detached Service Within the Department: Major H. C. Bankhead; Second Lt. F. D. Grant (F); Without the Department: Capt. E. B. Beaumont (A); On Escort Duty With Indians: Capt. J. Rendlebrock (G); and Co. G. On Recruiting Service: Lieut.-Col. J. P. Hatch; First Lieutenant W. W. Lawton (D); First Lieutenant R. G. Carter (B); Absent, Sick: Major A. B. Latimer; First Lieutenant J. M. Walton (C); Captain E. M. Burton (E); Temporarily Absent on Detached Service: Second Lieutenant S. A. Mason (D); Captain Wirt Davis (F); First Lieutenant F. L. Shoemaker (F); First Lieutenant W. C. Hemphill (G); First Lieutenant L. O. Parker (M).

5th Cavalry, Colonel Wm. H. EMORY.—Headquarters, and A. B. D. E. Fort Hays, Kas.; C. G. Camp Supply, I. T.; F. Fort Dodge, Kas.; H. Fort Wallace, Kas.; I. Fort Gibson, I. T.; K. Fort Riley, Kas.; L. M. Fort Lyon, C. T.

The leave of absence for seven days granted Lieutenant-Colonel E. A. Carr, was March 4 extended twenty days (S. O. 41, D. Mo.)

Second Lieutenant C. D. Parkhurst was March 10 relieved from duty as Judge-Advocate of G. C. M. at Fort Hays, Kas. (S. O. 45, D. Mo.)

First Lieutenant W. C. Forbush was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic during the week ending March 14.

The location of the officers of this regiment, as given in the March roster, Department of Missouri, was as follows:

Fort Hays, Kas.: Lieutenant-Colonel E. A. Carr; First Lieutenant and A. D. C. M. D. A. Irwin; A. Q. M., and A. C. S.: Captain R. F. Wilson (A); Second Lieutenant G. D. Egan (A); Captain R. H. Montgomery (B); Captain S. S. Sumner (D); First Lieutenant C. P. Rogers (D); Captain G. F. Price (E); First Lieutenant P. P. Barnard, A. C. S. (E); Second Lieutenant C. D. Parkhurst (E); Fort Dodge, Kas.: Captain J. Scott Payne (F); First Lieutenant A. B. Bache (F); Second Lieutenant W. P. Hall (F); Fort Gibson, I. T.: Major J. J. Upham; Captain S. C. Kellogg (I); First Lieutenant B. B. Leidy, Jr. (I); A. C. S. I. Fort Lyon, C. T.: Captain A. B. Taylor (L); First Lieutenant A. E. Woodson (L); Second Lieutenant W. H. Wheeler (L); Captain E. H. Leib (M); Second Lieutenant C. H. Watts (M); Camp Supply, Ind. T.: Major G. A. Gordon; Second Lieutenant H. S. Bishop (G); Fort Wallace, Kas.: Captain J. M. Hamilton (H); First Lieutenant E. W. Ward (H); Second Lieutenant E. P. Andrus (H); Fort Riley, Kas.: Captain J. W. Mason (K); First Lieutenant C. King (K); Absent With Leave: First Lieutenant and Adj. S. A. Mason (D); Second Lieutenant W. S. Schuyler (B); Captain Emil Adam (B); Detached Service Within the Department: Major G. A. Gordon; Maj. J. J. Upham; First Lieut. W. J. Voikmar (B); Without the Department: Col. W. H. Emory; Maj. V. K. Hart; First Lieut. J. A. Augur (A); Second Lieut. G. B. Davis (D); First Lieut. A. W. Greeley (M); First Lieutenant E. D. Thomas (G); Second Lieutenant F. Michler (K); Temporarily Absent on Detached Service: Captain E. M. Hayes (G); On Recruiting Service: Second Lieutenant R. London (I); First Lieutenant J. B. Babcock (C); On Escort Duty With Indians: Second Lieutenant E. L. Keyes (C); and Company C.

6th Cavalry, Colonel JAMES OAKES.—Headquarters and B. Camp Lowell, A. T.; A. D. Camp Apache; C. G. M. Camp Grant, A. T.; E. I. Camp Verde, A. T.; F. Fort Whipple, A. T.; H. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; K. Camp McDowell, A. T.

First Lieutenant G. S. Anderson was ordered Feb. 21 to Fort Lyon, C. T., to appear as a witness before the G. C. M. at that post (S. O. 22, D. Arizona).

The Commanding Officer of Angel Island sent to Fort Yuma, Cal., in charge of Major James Biddle, by the steamer of March 8, all enlisted men and laundresses at his post for companies serving in the Department of Arizona (S. O. 21, M. D. Pacific). Major James Biddle was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Pacific during two weeks ending Feb. 29.

7th Cavalry, Colonel S. D. STURGIS.—Headquarters, and A. C. D. E. F. I. L. Fort Lincoln, D. T.; B. G. Shreveport, La.; H. M. Fort Rice, D. T.; K. McComb City, Miss.

Second Lieutenant H. M. Harrington was March 9 duty with the detachment of recruits for t at Fort Snelling, Minn., to conduct it to assigned m Lincoln, D. T., afterwards to rejoin his the regiment (O. 32, D. Dakota).

8th Cavalry, Colonel J. I. GREGG.—Headquarters and A. B. E. G. K. Fort Clark, Texas; C. D. H. I. L. Fort Brown, Tex.; F. Fort Garland, C. T.; M. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. Devin was March 6 assigned to duty at Ringgold Barracks, Tex. (S. O. 39, D. Tex.)

Major D. R. Clendennin was March 8 relieved from G. C. M. at Ringgold Barracks, Tex. (S. O. 41, D. Tex.)

10th Cavalry, Colonel BENJAMIN H. GRIERSON.—Headquarters and A. D. F. G. I. L. Fort Concho, Tex.; B. E. Fort Griffin, Tex.; C. K. Fort McKavett, Tex.; M. Fort Stockton, Tex.; H. Ft Davis, Texas

Captain J. B. Van De Wiele was registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic during the week ending March 14.

1st Artillery, Colonel ISRAEL VOGDES.—Headquarters and B. E. F. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; A. I. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; D. Plattsburgh Barracks, N. Y.; G. Fort Monroe, Va.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; L. Fort Independence, Mass.

First Lieutenants B. H. Randolph and Abner H. Merrill were registered at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Pacific during two weeks ending Feb. 29.

2nd Artillery.—Colonel WILLIAM F. BARRY.—Headquarters, A. C. H. Fort McHenry, Md.; B. Fort Fort, Md.; D. E. Raleigh, N. C.; F. Morgantown, N. C.; G. Charleston, S. C.; I. L. Fort Macon, N. C.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; M. Fort Johnston, N. C.

Major Harvey A. Allen; First Lieutenants John McGilvray and Eli L. Huggins; Second Lieutenants Wm. A. Simpson and V. H. Bridgman are detailed members, and First Lieutenant Edward B. Hubbard J.-A. of G. C. M. at Raleigh, N. C., March 13.

Captain Carle A. Woodruff, First Lieutenant Thos. D. Maurice, and Second Lieutenant E. M. Weaver, Jr., are detailed members of G. C. M. at Charleston, S. C., March 15.

4th Artillery, Colonel HORACE BROOKS.—Headquarters, A. B. Presidio, Cal.; C. D. K. Alcatraz Island, Cal.; E. Fort Stevens, Or.; F. L. Sitka, Alaska; G. Point San Jose, Cal.; H. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; M. Camp McDermit, Nev. (Detachment M. Sitka.)

Captain Henry C. Hasbrouck; First Lieutenant Arthur Morris, and Second Lieutenant George H. Paddock are detailed members, and Captain George B. Rodney J.-A. of G. C. M. at Alcatraz Island, Cal., March 9.

5th Artillery, Colonel HENRY J. HUNT.—Headquarters and E. F. Charleston, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. I. L. M. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.; D. Savannah, Ga.; G. H. Key West, Fla.

Captain David H. Kinzie; First Lieutenant Wm. B. Beck, R. Q. M.; First Lieutenant Benjamin K. Roberts, and Second Lieutenant George E. Sage are detailed members, and Second Lieutenant David S. Denison J.-A. of G. C. M. at Charleston, S. C., March 15.

1st Infantry.—Colonel THOMAS G. FITCHER.—Headquarters and C. G. I. K. D. Fort Randall, D. T.; A. Lower Brule, Ay.; B. E. F. H. Fort Sully, D. T.

As soon as the season will permit, Co. D (Gallup's), will be relieved from duty at Fort Randall, and will take post at Fort Sully. Co. E (Offley's), will then march to Fort Randall and there take station. The company laundresses, and such heavy company baggage as cannot be transported by wagons, will be sent to their proper posts by boat, at the first opportunity. The wagon transportation for these movements will be taken from Fort Randall. Lieutenant-Colonel Lugenbeel, commanding the Southern District, will give the necessary detailed instructions for the execution of this order (S. O. 31, D. Dakota, March 8).

2nd Infantry, Colonel FRANK WHEATON.—Headquarters and B. D. H. I. Fort Atlanta, Ga.; A. Livingston, Ala.; C. Huntsville, Ala.; E. Chattanooga, Tenn.; F. G. Mt. Vernon Barracks, Ala.; H. Mobile, Ala.

Captain Wm. Falck, First Lieutenant Abner Haines, Jr., and Second Lieutenants Wm. V. Wolfe and Frank O. Briggs are detailed members of G. C. M. at McPherson Barracks, Ga., March 14. Colonel Frank Wheaton is detailed to inspect Post of Columbia, S. C., under special instructions (S. O. 33, D. South).

3rd Infantry, Colonel DE L. FLOYD-JONES.—Headquarters and A. B. E. F. Jackson Barracks, La.; C. Natchitoches; D. St. Martinsville, La.; G. Couchatta, La.; H. I. Pineville, La.; K. Shreveport, La.

Captains John H. Page and Edward Moale; First Lieutenants Wm. Mitchell, George W. H. Stouch, Joseph Hale, and Wm. Krause are detailed members, and Second Lieutenant Frederick Thies J.-A. of G. C. M. at Jackson Barracks, La., March 8.

6th Infantry, Colonel WILLIAM B. HAZEN.—Headquarters and C. D. E. F. G. I. Fort Buford, D. T.; A. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.; B. Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.

Leave of absence for one month was March 6 granted Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Huston, Jr., with permission to apply at Hdqrs Mil. Div. Mo., for extension of one month (S. O. 30, D. Dakota).

9th Infantry, Colonel JOHN H. KING.—Headquarters and C. E. F. G. H. Fort Laramie, W. T.; A. D. I. K. Camp Robinson, Neb.; B. Camp Sheridan, Neb.

Captain Andrew S. Burt was ordered March 8 with two men as guard, to proceed with Private James Dunbar, I, an insane soldier, said to be a deserter from the Marine Corps, to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army for instructions (S. O. 30, D. Platte).

Leave of absence for three months on Surgeon's certificate of disability is granted First Lieutenant Morris C. Foot, with permission to leave the Department of the Platte (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9).

11th Infantry, Colonel WILLIAM H. WOOD.—Headquarters and B. E. K. Ft Richardson, Tex.; A. F. G. Ft Griffin, Tex.; C. D. I. Ft Brown, Tex.; H. Ft Concho, Tex.

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of three months, was March 3 granted First Lieutenant John Whitney (S. O. 38, D. Tex.)

12th Infantry, Colonel ORLANDO B. WILLCOX.—Headquarters and B. F. I. Angel Island, Cal.; A. K. Camp Mojave, A. T.; C. Fort Yuma, Cal.; D. Camp Independence, Cal.; E. Camp Gaston, Cal.; G. Camp McDermit, Nev.; H. Camp Halleck, Nev.

Second Lieutenant Augustus G. Tassin, en route to

Fort Mojave, A. T., was ordered Feb. 28 to report to Major Biddle for duty on board the steamer of March 8, to Fort Yuma, Cal., with recruits, etc. (S. O. 21, M. D. Pacific). Second Lieutenant Augustus G. Tassin was registered at Hdqrs. Mil. Div. Pacific for two weeks ending Feb. 29.

The Paymaster-General will stop from the pay of Captain Wm. E. Dove the amount of half his pay, erroneously drawn, from April 8, 1875, to May 7, 1875, inclusive, during which period he was on leave of absence (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9).

*Captain Thomas Byrne, First Lieutenant Joseph H. Hurst, and Second Lieutenants H. L. Haskell and F. Von Schrader are detailed members of G. C.-M. at Alcatraz Island, Cal., March 9.

14th Infantry, Colonel JOHN E. SMITH.—Headquarters and B. C. F. H. I. and K, at Camp Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; D. and E, Fort Cameron, U. T.; G, Fort Cameron, Utah.

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of two months, was March 8 granted Major Montgomery Bryant (S. O. 30, D. Platte).

16th Infantry, Colonel GALUSHA PENNYPACKER.—Headquarters and F, G, Nashville, Tenn.; A, Lebanon, Ky.; B, H. Jackson, Miss.; C, I. Little Rock, Ark.; D, Humboldt, Tenn.; E, Lancaster, Ky.; K, Frankfort, Ky.

Captains Duncan M. Vance and W. G. Wedemeyer; First Lieutenants Henry C. Ward, R. Q. M., and Wm. V. Richards, Adjutant; Second Lieutenants Leven C. Allen and Charles R. Tyler are detailed members, and First Lieutenant George H. Palmer J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Nashville, Tenn., March 9.

17th Infantry, Colonel THOMAS L. CRITTENDEN.—Headquarters and A, F, Fort Abercrombie, D. T.; B, Fort Wadsworth, D. T.; C, Fort Rice, D. T.; E, Standing Rock, S. D.; G, Ft. A. Lincoln D. T.; H, Camp Hancock, D. T.; I, K, Big Chienne Agency, D. T.

Fort Sully, D. T., is designated as the military post at which Captain John H. Donovan will be confined during suspension (S. O. 29, D. Dakota).

Upon the recommendation of Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Custer, 7th Cavalry, with a view to render the services of Captain L. H. Sanger available for duty with his company in the field, the unexecuted portion of the sentence of the General Court-martial awarded that officer, as promulgated in G. O. 51, and mitigated in G. O. 56, of 1875, from Department Headquarters, was Feb. 21 remitted (G. C.-M. O. 14, D. Dakota).

18th Infantry, Colonel THOMAS H. RUGER.—Headquarters and B, D, F, G, H, I, Columbia, S. C.; A, E, Atlanta, Ga.; C, Yorkville, S. C.; K, Greenville, S. C.

Captains Jacob Kline and Edgar R. Kellogg are detailed members, and First Lieutenant George S. Hoyt J.-A. of G. C.-M. at McPherson Barracks, Ga., March 14. Captain Birney B. Keeler, A. D. C., will report to Colonel Frank Wheaton, 2d Infantry, accompany him during his inspection of the post of Columbia, S. C., and then return to Department Headquarters (S. O. 33, D. South).

20th Infantry, Colonel GEORGE SYKES.—Headquarters and C, H, Fort Snelling, Minn.; A, Fort Seward, D. T.; B, G, H, Fort Ripley, Minn.; D, F, I, Ft. Pembina, D. T.; E, K, Fort Totten, D. T.

Company G will be relieved from duty at Fort Ripley on March 25, and will proceed, via Brainerd, Minn., to Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., for temporary duty at that post (S. O. 28, D. Dakota).

Second Lieutenant J. J. Crittenden, at Fort Abercrombie, D. T., was ordered March 8 to join his company (S. O. 31, D. Dakota).

21st Infantry, Colonel ALFRED SULLY.—Headquarters and D, E, H, I, Fort Vancouver, W. T.; A, Camp Harney, Or.; B, Fort Wrangle, Alaska; C, Fort Townsend, W. T.; F, Fort Klamath, Or.; G, Fort Lapwai, I. T.; K, Fort Boise, I. T. A circular March 12, of Mil. Div. Atlantic, directs that, should Captain Wm. McC. Netterville appear at any post or station in the Division, the commanding officer will retain him and report the fact to Division Headquarters.

Circular No. 3, D. South, March 13, publishes letter from A.-G. O., stating that it having been reported that Captain Wm. McC. Netterville is believed to have deserted the service of the United States from Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, March 2, you are respectfully requested to cause the necessary measures to be taken to effect his arrest, should he pass through your command. The records of this office show that Captain Netterville was appointed from Commissary Sergeant, 1st Battalion 12th Infantry, in 1862, and was born in Albany, N. Y. He is reported deficient in company property, etc.

23rd Infantry, Colonel JEFF. C. DAVIS.—Headquarters and C, D, G, H, I, K, Omaha Barracks, Neb.; A, Fort Hartwell, Neb.; B, N. Platte, Neb.; E, Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; F, Fort Russell, W. T.

First Lieutenant Charles Bird, Adjutant, was ordered March 6, with two men as guard, to proceed with Jacob Paradowsky, I, an insane soldier, to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General for instructions (S. O. 28, D. Platte).

Captains James Henton and Joseph T. Haskell, First Lieutenant Louis R. Stille and Second Lieutenant Edwin B. Bolton are detailed members of G. C.-M. at Cheyenne Depot, March 13.

First Lieutenant Charles Bird, Adjutant, was ordered to his proper station (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9).

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of three months, was March 10 granted First Lieutenant Louis R. Stille (S. O. 31, D. Platte).

24th Infantry, Colonel JOSEPH H. POTTER.—Headquarters and C, E, H, Fort Brown, Tex.; A, B, Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; G, I, K, Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; D, F, Fort Duncan, Tex.

First Lieutenant J. B. Nixon, R. Q. M., was March 6 detailed member of Board of Survey, vice Second Lieutenant M. C. Wessells relieved (S. O. 39, D. Tex.).

Captain H. C. Corbin was registered at Hdqrs. Mil. Div. Atlantic during the week ending March 14. Second Lieutenant W. H. W. James was March 8 detailed member of G. C.-M. at Ringgold Barracks, Tex. (S. O. 21, D. Tex.).

GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL.

The following Courts-martial have been ordered: At Jackson Barracks, La., March 8; for detail see Medical Department and 3d Infantry (S. O. 45, D. Gulf). At Nashville, Tenn., March 9; for detail see Medical Department and 16th Infantry (S. O. 31, D. South). At Raleigh, N. C., March 18; for detail see Medical Department and 2d Artillery (S. O. 32, D. South). At Cheyenne Depot March 13; for detail see 3d Cavalry and 23d Infantry (S. O. 29, D. Platte).

At Alcatraz Island, Cal., March 9; for detail see 1st Cavalry, 4th Artillery and 12th Infantry (S. O. 22, D. Cal.). At Charleston, S. C., March 15; for detail see 2d and 5th Artillery (S. O. 34, D. South). At McPherson Barracks, Ga., March 14; for detail see Q. M. Dept., 2d and 18th Infantry (S. O. 33, D. South).

Courts-martial Dissolved.—At Charleston, S. C., Feb. 23, and of which Captain C. W. Foster, A. Q. M., is president (G. C.-M. O. 9, D. South). At Fort Monroe, Va., and of which Captain Lorenzo Lorain, 3d Artillery, is president (G. O. 12, M. D. Atlantic, Feb. 24). At Fort Porter, N. Y., and of which Captain John Hartley, 22d Infantry, is president, Feb. 24 (G. O. 13, M. D. Atlantic). At Fort Wayne, Mich., and of which Captain DeWitt C. Poole, 23d Infantry, is president, March 4 (G. O. 14, M. D. Atlantic). That instituted by S. O. 227 of 1875, D. Dakota (S. O. 29, c. s., D. Dakota, March 4).

At Fort Ellis, M. T., Feb. 23, and of which Captain Edward Hall, 2d Cavalry, was president (G. C.-M. O. 15, D. Dakota). At Fort Totten, D. T., Feb. 16, and of which Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Hunt, 29th Infantry, was president (G. C.-M. O. 12, D. Dakota). At Fort Abercrombie, D. T., Feb. 19, and of which Assistant Surgeon W. D. Wolverton was president (G. C.-M. O. 13, D. Dakota).

At Alcatraz Island, Cal., Feb. 23, and of which Captain John Mendenhall, 4th Artillery, was president (G. C.-M. O. 11, D. Cal.).

That instituted by S. O. 213, D. Tex., 1875, and of which Colonel Edward Hatch, 9th Cavalry, is president (S. O. 42, D. Tex.).

Comments on Courts-martial Proceedings.—G. O. 4, D. Mo., calls attention to G. O. 64, W. D. A. G. O., series of 1875, as to the allowance of five days per month for continuous good conduct to prisoners under sentence of G. O.-M., and prescribes methods of securing the same. It also prescribes methods of forwarding charges for G. C.-M. to Department Headquarters.

In the case of Henry Smith, A, 9th Cavalry, sentenced to dishonorable discharge and five years confinement, for alleged forgery of his captain's approval to a due bill on a post trader, General Ord, commanding Department of Texas, remarks in disapproving parts of proceedings, "though it is established that the main body of the paper forged is in the prisoner's hand writing, there is not a particle of proof that he forged the signature thereto, as alleged, or that he presented, or caused to be presented, the forged check. The Department Commander would, moreover, in this connection, call attention to the fact that the practice of company commanders approving orders or due bills, on post traders or other merchants, signed by a soldier, with a view of constraining payment thereon, is, in a measure, equivalent to allowing traders a lien on the soldier's pay to the extent named in the orders, and is not only unauthorized by any law but is repugnant to previous legislation abolishing the sutler's lien, and in opposition to instructions from the War Department. Circulars Adjutant-General's Office, June 7, 1871, and March 25, 1872; Section 3, Chapter 4, act approved Dec. 24, 1861." . . . (G. C.-M. O. 5, D. Tex.).

ORDERS RELATING TO ENLISTED MEN.

Discharged.—Trumpeter John Lynch, K, 5th Cavalry, without character; Stephen Kennedy, B, 12th Infantry, and Recruit Wm. H. Lane, Mounted Service, now in the hands of the civil authorities (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 8). Thomas Seyles, G, 4th Infantry, dishonorably, to date July 13, 1875 (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9). Oliver H. Lowrey, General Service, now with the Signal Service Detachment at Fort Whipple, Va. (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 13).

Transferred.—James Bull, General Service to G, 23d Infantry, March 4, at Omaha Barracks, Neb. (S. O. 27, D. Platte). Francis Bartley, B, 17th Infantry, to General Service, March 3 (S. O. 28, D. Dakota).

James Carroll, A, 19th Infantry, March 10, to General Service, Elson Guards, Fort Leavenworth (S. O. 45, D. Mo.); August Gunther, Band, 23d Infantry, to I.

The discharge of James Murray, General Service, is revoked, and he is transferred to E, 5th Infantry, to take effect from the date the man was discharged (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9). George A. Clark, I, 5th Cavalry, to the 1st Cavalry (S. O., W. D., A. G. O., March 9).

Reduced to Ranks.—Sergeant Alex. Stewart, G, 2d Artillery (G. C.-M. O. 9, D. South, Feb. 23); First Sergeant Albert Kraus, K, 4th Infantry, and dishonorably discharged with one year's hard labor at Fort Leavenworth (G. C.-M. O. 7, D. Platte, Jan. 25); Sergeant Major John McFreeland, 23d Infantry, Jan. 24; Sergeant John L. Beighley, D, 23d Infantry, and fined \$10, Jan. 24 (G. C.-M. O. 6, D. Platte).

Sergeant Joseph L. Felty, K, 18th Infantry, March 8, and fined \$15 (G. C.-M. O. 19, D. South).

Acquitted.—Sergeant Albert C. Van Deusen, C, 5th Artillery (G. O. 12, M. D. Atlantic, Feb. 24).

James Murphy, M, 8th Cavalry, Feb. 23, of desertion (G. C.-M. O. 11, D. Cal.). James Needham, D, 10th Cavalry, Feb. 28, of theft (G. C.-M. O. 5, D. Tex.).

Fined.—John Megery and George Ethman, B, 3d Artillery, \$10 each (G. O. 13, M. D. Atlantic, Feb. 24); August Gunther, Band, 23d Infantry, March 4, two months pay (G. O. 14, M. D. Atlantic); John Sullivan, E, 14th Infantry, Feb. 5, for stealing four dollars, \$3 (G. C.-M. O. 8, D. Platte); John Dunn, B, 33d Infantry, one month's pay (G. C.-M. O. 7, D. Platte, Jan. 26); H. M. Oats, D, 23d Infantry, \$50, Jan. 24 (G. C.-M. O. 6, D. Platte); Wm. R. Percy, Band, 17th Infantry, Feb. 19, \$20 (G. C.-M. O. 13, D. Dakota); Corporal John Furey, K, 30th Infantry, \$20, and reduced to ranks.

Sentence Remitted.—Charles Palfort, late I, 10th Infantry, March 3, six months remitted, and confined at Fort McKavett, Tex., instead of Fort Leavenworth (S. O. 38, D. Tex.); Frank

Faught, General Prisoner, Alcatraz Island, Cal., Feb. 24, for physical disability (S. O. 19, M. D. Pacific). Patrick Byrne, C, 2d Artillery, March 14 (S. O. 42, M. D. Atlantic).

Furloughs.—For sixty days, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Division, to Trumpeter John Moriarty, B, 4th Cavalry (S. O. 42, D. Mo., March 6).

Released from Confinement.—Thomas Bundy, F, 7th Infantry, March 3 (S. O. 28, D. Dakota); Adolph Brand, B, 3d Infantry, March 4 (S. O. 31, D. South). James F. Henry, Charles Spencer, and James Walsh, A, 2d Cavalry, March 8 (S. O. 30, D. Platte). Henry Smith, A, 10th Cavalry, Feb. 28 (G. C.-M. O. 5, D. Tex.).

Alfred Pfeiffer, late D, 16th Infantry, May 6; John Mooney, late B, 2d Infantry, April 2; James McGill, H, 2d Infantry, March 11 (S. O. 36, D. South).

Sentenced to Confinement.—With dishonorable discharge: Joseph Knox, F, 5th Artillery, 18 months, ball and chain (G. C.-M. O. 9, D. South); George Johnson, A, 3d Artillery (G. O. 12, M. D. Atlantic). At Post: Michael Aldera, B, 23d Infantry, 3 months and \$30 (G. O. 13, M. D. Atlantic, Feb. 24); David J. Fogue, E, 9th Infantry, 6 months and \$50; Martin Dowd, H, 9th Infantry, 3 months and \$30; George Williams, 20 days, 30 lb. knapsack and \$20; John Ferris, F, 22d Infantry, 24 hours of 30 lb. knapsack drill (G. C.-M. O. 9, D. Platte, Feb. 24); John Glynn, D, 14th Infantry, hard labor till March 4, 1876; John Vaughn, E, 14th Infantry, 3 months and \$30; Patrick Hanley, B, 14th Infantry, 3 months and \$30 (G. C.-M. O. 8, D. Platte, Feb. 5); George Lewis, F, 14th Infantry, 10 days and \$5; James P. Henry, A, 2d Cavalry, 2 months and \$20 (G. C.-M. O. 7, D. Platte, Jan. 26). At Fort Abercrombie, D. T., Feb. 19: Wm. Allen, Recruit, 17th Infantry; John T. Ashby, F, 17th Infantry, and Thomas E. Lyons, A, 17th Infantry, each one month and \$33; Wm. M. Brown, F, 17th Infantry, 6 months and \$60; James Kelly, F, 17th Infantry, 3 months and \$30; Wm. Poynter, F, 17th Infantry, same; Charles Smurr, F, 17th Infantry, 4 months and \$40; Muscician Leonard J. Henry, F, 17th Infantry, 5 months and \$55 (G. C.-M. O. 13, D. Dakota). At Fort Ellis, M. T., Feb. 23: John Roth and Francis Reynolds, L, 2d Cavalry, dishonorable discharge and three years each (G. C.-M. O. 15, D. Dakota). At Post: Thomas Wilson, Band, 20th Infantry, one month and \$10 (G. C.-M. O. 16, D. Dakota). General Crook designates the Kansas State Penitentiary Military Prison as the place of confinement for Wm. Fox, Band, 23d Infantry; Frank Fenerstein, G, 14th Infantry; Herman Parthe, D, 2d Cavalry; Michael McCormack, B, 2d Cavalry; Frank H. McTague, D, 23d Infantry; Martin Buckley, H, 14th Infantry; Martin Cavender, C, 3d Cavalry, and Albert Kraus, K, 4th Infantry, heretofore sentenced by G. C.-M. It revokes contrary orders. The same order sends to Fort Leavenworth Joshua Ridge, I, 9th Infantry; Frank Wolf, Wm. McKenna and George Williams, M, 3d Cavalry; F. A. Carpenter, H, 3d Cavalry; Thomas Leach, L, 3d Cavalry; G. W. Haines, H, 14th Infantry, and Heinrich Lambke, F, 14th Infantry. All as of Feb. 29 (G. C.-M. O. 14, D. Platte).

At Omaha Barracks March 8: James M. Fountain, Charles Fisk, Wm. McCabe, Patrick Shields, Mar in Cavender, Patrick Nolan, James Feeney, Alonzo McIntyre, Herman Parthe, Frank V. Nelson, Albert Kraus, and Harry Sherman. These prisoners are all dishonorably discharged under previous orders and on their way to Fort Leavenworth from Sidney Barracks, Neb., and Forts Russell, Sanders, Bridger, and Camp Douglas (S. O. 30, D. Platte). At Alcatraz Island, Cal., with dishonorable discharge: Marcus Weiner, G, 4th Artillery, 18 months; James Clark, C, 15th Infantry, 3 years; Patrick Carthy, D, 1st Cavalry, 1 year. At Post: Thomas Reynolds, B, 4th Artillery, one month and \$40; Richard Hamilton, B, 4th Artillery, one month and \$36; Columbus Middleton, D, 4th Artillery, 3 months and \$30 (G. C.-M. O. 11, D. Cal., Feb. 23).

With Dishonorable Discharge: Henry Moody, E, 24th Infantry, 3 years; John Brooks, A, 9th Cavalry, and Richard Conway, E, 10th Cavalry, each one year at Fort Leavenworth; Isaac Maynard, Recruit, 25th Infantry, 6 months at post. At Posts: Benjamin F. Craig, F, 9th Cavalry, 3 months and \$87; William Burns, K, 10th Infantry, one month and \$5; Philip Smith, B, 10th Infantry, one month and \$10 (G. C.-M. O. 5, D. Tex., Feb. 28).

Indian Scouts.—Authority is given by S. O. 29, D. Dakota, March 4, to the commanders of Fort Abraham Lincoln and District of Montana, to enlist twenty and twenty-five Indian scouts respectively for service in the field with the Crook and Custer columns.

Boards of Survey.—The following Department orders relate to Boards of Survey: S. O. 43, M. D. Atlantic; S. O. 2, D. South; S. O. 20 and 22, D. N. M.; S. O. 45 and 46, D. Gulf; S. O. 22, D. Arizona; S. O. 22, D. Cal.; S. O. 28 and 30, D. Platte; S. O. 40, D. Tex.; S. O. 24, D. N. M.; S. O. 23 and 24, D. Arizona; S. O. 3, D. South.

BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS.

H. R. 2530, to re-organize the property and money departments of the Army, and for purposes connected therewith, enacts that the officers of the Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments of the Army be consolidated July 1, 1876, and constitute thereafter "The Supply Department of the Army;" that the permanent organization of the Supply Department shall be, one brigadier-general, as Commissary-General of Supplies; four colonels, as assistant commissary-generals; six lieutenant-colonels, as deputy commissary-generals; ten majors, as commissaries; thirty captains, as assistant commissaries; and such first lieutenants of the line as may hold appointments as regimental commissary, or as may be detailed as post commissaries; such first lieutenants shall continue to be regimental officers only in rank; but vacancies in the grade of captain in this department shall be filled by selection from the first lieutenants serving in the department. The officers of the Supply Department shall have the pay and allowances of cavalry officers of corresponding rank. Sec. 2. Transfers to the Supply Department all the duties and responsibilities heretofore pertaining, or in any way belonging, to the Quartermaster's or Subsistence Department, except the disbursement of public money, and provides that no additional officer shall be appointed, and no promotion be made in any grade in the Supply Department, until the number of officers now in excess in such grade is reduced below the number for such grade as fixed in this act. Sec. 3. That the permanent organization of the Pay Department of the Army shall hereafter be, one Paymaster-General, with the rank and pay of brigadier-general; four assistant paymasters-general, six deputy paymasters-general, and forty-two paymasters; the positions of assistant and deputy paymasters-general to be filled from the majors in excess in the corps as heretofore authorized by law; and the grade of paymaster's clerk is hereby abolished. The clerical wants of the Department may be provided for, under the direction of the Paymaster-General, as in other staff departments of the Army. Sec. 4. That after June 30, 1876, all unexpended balances in the hands of officers of the Supply Department will be deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States in some designated place of deposit; and all such funds, together with all unexpended appropriations for either the Quartermaster's

or Subsistence Department, and all appropriations hereafter made for purposes of the Supply Department, shall pass, on the books of the Treasury Department, to the credit of the Pay Department of the Army, in like manner as appropriations for the pay of the Army; and the officers of the Pay Department, in addition to the payments heretofore made by them, shall thereafter make all disbursements on account of the Supply Department. Sec. 5. That such of the clerical force as may be required, now authorized by law, in the Quartermaster-General's Office and Commissary-General's Office, shall be transferred to the office of the Commissary-General of Supplies; and all accounts and returns for property shall, after June 30 next, be made to, and be settled by, the Commissary-General of Supplies; and all accounts for money disbursed prior to June 30, 1876, by either officers of the Quartermaster's or Subsistence Department, shall be examined and passed upon in the office of the Commissary-General of Supplies. After such money accounts have been examined, verified, and turned over to the Treasury Department for final settlement, the clerical force in the Supply Department shall be reduced to the extent, in number, of those engaged on money accounts; and as fast as such accounts can be finally settled and closed in the Third Auditor's office, the clerical force in that office shall be correspondingly reduced. Sec. 6. That the Second Auditor and Second Comptroller of the Treasury Department be charged with the final settlement of all disbursements made by the paymasters of the Army. Sec. 7. That in future all civil employees, clerks, mechanics, teamsters, laborers, and others in the employ of the Supply Department, shall be mustered, monthly or bimonthly, for pay, the same as troops. The muster-rolls shall set forth the name of the person, when, and in what capacity employed, with authority therefor, rate of compensation, and date to which last paid. Such muster for pay-rolls shall be verified and attested by the mustering and inspecting officer of the troops, or by some officer designated by the post or department commander for this duty, and all penalties fixed by law or regulations for a false muster for troops shall apply to a false muster of such civil employees. Sec. 8. That all laws, parts of laws, or regulations of the Army having the force of law, inconsistent with any of the provisions of this act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

H. R. 2564, to prevent monopoly and exorbitant charges in trading establishments at military posts, and to secure good order at the same, enacts that every citizen of the United States of good moral character who complies with this act shall be entitled to be appointed to maintain a trading establishment in the manner authorized by section 1113 of the Revised Statutes. Every person desiring to be so appointed shall furnish to the Secretary of War satisfactory evidence of good moral character, and shall execute yearly a bond to the United States to the acceptance of the Secretary of War with at least four sureties, each one good and sufficient, conditioned that such person will faithfully observe all laws and regulations made, or to be made, relating to such persons and to such trading establishment. The authority of such person appointed shall only be revoked when it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of War that he is not of good moral character, or has violated some law or regulation relating to such trading establishment, or the business thereof. The Secretary of War shall have power to prescribe all reasonable rules and regulations respecting such persons and trading establishments, and the business thereof, with a view to secure good order, reasonable charges for goods sold, and otherwise, as may be reasonable and just, and to change the same from time to time as may be deemed proper.

H. R. 1055 authorizes the Secretary of War to convey to the city of Newport, Ky., the grounds known as the Newport Barracks.

H. R. 2554 extends the time within which the Court of Claims may hear and determine the claims of the officers and soldiers of the late war, growing out of services therein, for two years.

H. R. 2569 revives the law and extends the time for filing claims for horses and equipments lost by officers and enlisted men in the service of the United States, which expired by limitation Jan. 1, 1876, and provides that all claims for horses or other property so lost or destroyed, shall be filed in the proper Department, after Jan. 1, 1876.

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 90), authorizing the Secretary of War to deliver to the commissioners of Forest Park, Saint Louis, eight condemned cannon to be used in constructing the base of the statue of ex-Attorney-General Edward Bates, have submitted a report in which they very sensibly conclude: "That while they consider the object as eminently a proper one, yet from the great number of similar applications which have been made to your committee, whereby a vast amount of bronze cannon which has been obtained at great expense by the Government is thus sought to be given away, your committee deem they have no right, with a due regard to that economy which should obtain to the property of the Government, to afford precedents which may be successfully quoted in granting the public property without due remuneration."

While the condition of our heavy ordnance, by land and sea, is not yet equal to the requirements of modern artillery service, in the excellence of its small arms, the American Army is to-day second to none and superior to most. The United States Springfield rifle and carbine, new model, of uniform calibre, using interchangeable ammunition if necessary, is a practicable weapon, equal, in range and accuracy, to the military rifles of Europe, as has been fully proven. To these weapons we must add the new Army pistol of the same calibre, with similar ammunition, only differing in the charge of powder and length of cartridge. It is an instance of the power of good traditions in a house

to secure good work at all times, that this new Army pistol should be the legitimate offspring of the best practical revolver made in the old days of loose ammunition. Just as in the old times Colt's revolver was the recognized king of pistols in all parts of the world, so now, under the new regime of fixed ammunition, "Colt's New Model Army Metallic Cartridge Revolving Pistol" has beaten all competitors, and stands today at the head of all the cartridge pistols as the Army weapon, *par excellence*. During the civil war, and long anterior thereto, the old model of Colt's pistols had practically superseded all others for Army use, in all parts of the world, the only objection to its use being its high price. The revolution effected by the general introduction of metallic ammunition, however, caused the old "Colt" to disappear at last. It shot as well as ever, and for frontier purposes, where powder and lead are more easily procurable than fixed ammunition, it remained the favorite, but at home and in the pistol trade it was for a while pushed out of the general market by its younger competitors. Lately, however, it has regained its ground, by a change of model suiting it to metallic cartridges, and has again come to the head of the pistols for practical use. Persons in the habit of using the old model Colt will remember the reason for preference by practical men over all others. This was its *accuracy*. It was a pistol to stake a man's life upon in a fight. It shot where it was held. The great pistol shots of the frontier and the Army, men who would put six shots into a telegraph post when passing it at full gallop (a feat performed by more than one marksman in old times), all used "Colt's Navy" or "Colt's Army," and had a prejudice against other pistols. It was the fact that the "New Colt" is as good as the old one, that led the Government to formally adopt it for the use of the cavalry service, for which 12,500 have been already furnished. The New Model Colt is a totally different weapon from the old one. This is the simplest cartridge revolver made, everything being plain and strong. It differs from the old one in having a solid frame for the cylinder, like the Remington revolver. The hand which revolves the cylinder has two fingers, giving a gain of power and diminishing the chance of breakage in hard service. The ejector is like the old rammer, but slides up and down in a tube instead of working with a lever. A spiral spring takes it back after each shell is ejected. The provision for loading is very simple, a piece of the breech, called "the gate," opening outward with a thumb piece, and closing again. The cylinder is, of course, open at both ends, like other metallic cartridge revolvers. The shells are central fire, and can be reloaded, like rifle shells. Altogether, the "New Colt" presents so many advantages over all other pistols, that it is not surprising that the board should have reported as it did. Its only rival was the Schofield modification of the old Smith and Wesson. This latter proved slightly superior only in one point, rapidity of ejection of empty shells. In the Colt these come out one at a time, in the Schofield all six at once. In accuracy the Colt's was ahead 28 per cent., in penetration 20 per cent., the average penetration of a Colt's bullet at 25 yards being 4 inches of wood. In simplicity of parts there was such a decided superiority that the board recommended the Colt which is now in service.

A LETTER appears in the *Evening Post*, of March 13, over the initials J. C., which we presume to be the production of Captain John Codman, a gentleman of character and respectability, now on a visit to Washington. He gives as the result of his knowledge of the current reports in society in Washington, the following story which we quote, as coming from a person of undoubted integrity, whose opinion is at least unbiased: "This much I firmly believe, from what I consider unquestionable authority—that of an officer of high rank in the Army, a man of undoubted honor, who is moreover a political opponent of the late Secretary, as I am myself—that he has sacrificed himself in the endeavor to hide the shame of his wife. I do not care to relate all the gossip I have heard in the drawing-rooms and ladies' parlors. It requires a great deal of sifting to get at the main facts, but in short they are these: The predecessor of the present Mrs. Belknap, her sister, was a lady known and respected by us all, a lovely woman and the ornament of society. No one who knew her believes the monstrous story of Marsh that she tempted him to propose a bribe to her husband. On the contrary, when, in return for the kindness of Mr. Marsh and his family, she offered to procure for him the post-tradership, she told him that nothing in the shape of an equivalent would be accepted by her husband, who had lately kicked a man down stairs on his offering him a bribe of \$10,000. General Belknap gave him the position in gratitude for his kindness to Mrs. Belknap, without a thought of remuneration, nor did Mrs. Belknap anticipate any pecuniary gain from the transaction. In the mean time Mrs. Bowers, the present Mrs. Belknap, had her property, of about ninety thousand dollars, in the hands of Mr. Marsh. She was living with General Belknap and wife in Washington, and contributing her share toward the expenses of housekeeping. Mr. Marsh made his contract with Evans, and received his \$12,000 annually according to his agreement with him. He told a gentleman who is my informant, long before this denouement, that he was receiving this money, and that he did not think it all rightfully belonged to him, and consulted this friend as to the propriety of his offering one-half of it to Mrs. Belknap. All this time he was paying the dividends on the property of the present Mrs. Belknap, sometimes in cash to her and sometimes to General Belknap, who never had any reason to suppose that the money came from any other source. Nor would he probably have known it to this day but for a quarrel two years ago in Paris between Mrs. Marsh and Mrs. Belknap, the consequence of which was spiteful exposé on the part of the former. I believe this story in the main is true. It is corrobor-

ated by the desire of General Belknap that Marsh should remain and give his testimony rather than leave the country as he offered to do. It may be that Gen. Belknap became aware of the source of his wife's income shortly before the matter became public. If so, and if he did not at once refuse to receive any more of the money, so far, and so far only (but that is far enough), he is guilty. All that remains to be proved. If it is established that neither General Belknap nor his deceased wife made the disgraceful contract alleged with Marsh, it will go far to mitigate his crime and will relieve her memory from unjust reproach. Is it not better to hope for this result than to condemn without a hearing? Similar reports have reached us through a variety of sources, and there certainly remains something to be explained to account fully for General Belknap's hasty resignation, which was not the act of a man conscious of deliberate complicity with dishonest practices, who would rather be expected to deny, and to hold on, as long as possible, to the vantage ground of a cabinet position, instead of leaving himself and his friends exposed without answer to the definite and indefinite charges, by which it is sought to make political capital out of his case. It is a disgrace to our civilization that a question that involves the honor, not only of an individual, but the country, has so little prospect of being considered in the light of a calm and judicial determination of the fact of the case.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

PAY Director Horatio Bridge has returned to Washington and taken up his residence there.

THE *Despatch* arrived at Pensacola the 9th inst., and expected to reach Washington in about ten days.

THE four Navy vessels sent to Pensacola to tow the iron-clads to Port Royal, expected to leave about the 15th inst., on their return.

THE Naval General Court-martial sitting at San Francisco, of which Commodore J. H. Spotts, is president, has concluded the trial of Passed Assistant Engineer Jos. H. Harmony, and forwarded its proceedings to the Secretary of the Navy.

THE *Hartford*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Le Roy, anchored in Hampton Roads, March 9. The fleet, composed of the *Hartford*, *Marion*, *Huron*, *Plymouth*, and *Vandalia*, expects to leave the Roads about the 15th inst. for Port Royal, S. C. The *Alert* and *Catskill* have already gone down.

THE repairs to the steamer *Phlox* having been completed, Mates Joseph Rogers and B. J. Perry, and Passed Assistant Engineer J. L. D. Borthwick, have been ordered to New York to return in her to the Naval Academy, and on arrival there to resume their regular duties.

COMMODORE J. B. Creighton was in Washington last week, also Captain Clark H. Wells and Paymaster John H. Stevenson. The latter has succeeded in removing the suspended items of about \$60,000 against him, having presented the necessary vouchers to the accounting officer, showing the proper disbursement of the Government funds that were in his hands.

THE recent Court of Inquiry, on board the *Pensacola*, at Mare Island, to investigate the reports of illegal punishments, is said to have developed the fact that several of the boys on board that vessel were illegally punished by private flogging, by order or with the knowledge of the commanding officer. Flogging in the Navy having been abolished by law upwards of 25 years ago by Statute, the matter assumes rather a serious aspect for those concerned in it.

THE Navy Department is in receipt of despatches from Rear-Admiral Werden, commanding the South Atlantic Station, dated on board the *Richmond*, at Valparaiso, Chili, Feb. 8. He reports the health of the officers and crew unusually good. The *Omaha* was daily expected from Callao. The *Richmond* expected to sail between 20th Feb. and 1st March for Callao, stopping at the important ports en route. The new Chilean iron-clad *Valparaiso*, of 3,500 tons displacement, was in port. She is of the same class and model as the *Almirante* and *Cochrane*. She is a powerful and formidable vessel, was built at Hull, bark rigged, six nine-inch armstrong guns, muzzle-loaders, speed 13½ knots.

THE U. S. ship *Supply* arrived at Civita Vecchia, Feb. 21. The passage from the United States was long, owing to heavy gales from N. W., N. E., and S. W. in the Atlantic, and a succession of light easterly winds for the eight days previous to reaching Gibraltar. Jan. 28, a heavy sea stove her port quarter boat and snapped the iron boat davit. From Gibraltar to Civita Vecchia she had fair winds the greater part of the way. She expected to leave Civita Vecchia March 2, for Leghorn, and to sail from latter place March 15. Should she sail earlier many of the contributions would have to be left behind. A number of them will have to be sent from Civita Vecchia to Leghorn.

THE appreciation of the work of the Hydrographic office, by the people of Chili, has recently been manifested by the awarding of a medal and diploma to Commodore R. H. Wyman, the experienced and efficient Hydrographer in charge of the office. Captain F. V. Gomez, of the Chilean navy, writes concerning it:

The International Exposition of Chili prompted me to exhibit the work of the office under your charge, although not authorized to do so. Taking into consideration our friendly relations and devotion to progress, I considered it a duty to represent your important office, and without any effort on my part, other than the representation of my appreciation of the importance of the works issued by the U. S. Hydrographic office at Washington, a medal of the first class and a diploma has been awarded, which I have the honor to forward through the Consul General of the

United States. I trust that you will excuse me for thus calling your attention to the important works of this office of the Republic of North America and its fraternal relations with the lately established Hydrographic office at Chili.

REAR-ADMIRAL Le Roy, in General Order No. 6, dated the 4th March, establishes the following Divisions of the North Atlantic Station:

I.—Hartford, flagship; Oseipee, Comdr. S. L. Breese; Brooklyn, Captain J. H. Upshur; Swatara, Comdr. A. P. Cooke.

II.—Captain Earl English, commanding; Vandavia, Comdr. M. Haxton; Alert, Comdr. J. D. Marvin; Congress, Captain Earl English; Marion, Comdr. R. F. Bradford.

III.—Captain Edward Barrett, commanding; Monongahela, Capt. L. A. Kimberly; Shawmut, Comdr. G. C. Wiltse; Huron, Comdr. C. C. Carpenter; Plymouth, Captain E. Barrett.

Reserve.—Monitors, storeships, and despatch vessels, senior commanding officer commanding.

Divisional commanders will wear pennants, assigned by the Tactical Signal Books, at the main. They will repeat signals made by the flagship to vessels of their division. Attention is called to Navy Regulations, par. 114 to 120, inclusive; Parker's Steam Tactics, and the Naval Tactical Signal Book.

THE Naval Committee of the House have had before them, during the past ten days, several officers of the Navy, some of whom appear to have been called to testify in regard to alleged frauds and abuses in the Navy, and others to give their views for the promotion of efficiency in the Navy. In addition, circular letters have been sent by the committee to a number of officers of the Navy, both of the line and staff, and generally of the higher grades, in which their views are asked as to frauds and abuses, and their suggestions for the improvement of the Navy. Among those who have been before the committee are Commodore Fairfax, Captain Fillebrown, Commander Meade, Colonel Broome, of the Marine Corps, Captain Jouett, Commodore Preble, and Naval Constructor Esby. A fine opportunity has been thus afforded for such of those as desired to present their particular ideas and opinions regarding the naval service and its management, and to cut right and left where real or imaginary corruption existed.

COMMANDER Edward A. Walker, U. S. Navy, died in Newton, Mass., Wednesday, March 8, at the age of thirty-five years, and was buried Friday, March 10, from Grace Church in that place. The rector, Rev. George W. Shinn, officiated, and was assisted by Rev. Dr. Lambert, of Charlestown. The following officers from the Charlestown Navy-yard attended the funeral ceremonies: Lieutenant-Commander Johnson, Commanders Mahan, Brown and Dewey, Lieutenant-Commanders Nichols, O'Neil, Davis, Lamberton, and Wilde, Chief-Engineer Bartleman and Surgeon Schofield. The remains were interred in Newton cemetery. Commander Walker was a native of Massachusetts, and was appointed from that State in 1856 to the Naval Academy. His first voyage was in the *Seminole* in 1861, and he saw service during the war on that vessel on the Potomac river, and in the gunboats *Paul Jones* and *Chippewa*, of the South Atlantic squadron. Subsequent to the war he was attached to the steamer *Dix*, Atlantic squadron; the *Lockawanna*, North Pacific squadron; the *Dictator*, North Atlantic fleet; the Hydrographic Office, the Boston Navy-yard, the *Lancaster*, South Atlantic station.

FROM the naval station, Pensacola, Fla., a correspondent writes, March 8, 1876, as follows: The evening of the 22d of February will always be remembered here with great pleasure, on account of the grand hop given by Commodore Cooper and officers of this station to the citizens of Pensacola, in return of the kindness which has been extended towards them. The guests began to assemble in the magnificent ball room about 9 o'clock, when Gale's fine band from Mobile opened the ball with a march. Dancing was continued until 12 o'clock, when supper was announced, ah! a supper that your Delmonico would be proud of. After supper dancing was resumed and continued until 5 o'clock, "when the girls went home with the boys in the morning," and every one having had a most charming time. Among the many handsome and superbly dressed ladies, we noticed Mrs. Commodore Cooper, Mrs. Belknap, Mrs. McGlensey, Mrs. Oberly, the two Mrs. Allens, Mrs. DeBlois, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Coghean, and Mrs. McNary, of the yard, and from Pensacola that fascinating little beauty Miss Judah, Mrs. Judah, the handsome Miss Mallory, the charming Miss Grant, the Misses Blunts, Davidson, Maren, and others who we would like to mention, but space will not permit. Commodore and Mrs. Cooper, assisted by the officers and ladies, did every thing in their power to make all hands enjoy themselves, and I can say for one they certainly succeeded in doing so.

THE *Vallejo Chronicle* gives the substance of the charges and specifications against Pay Inspector Spalding, now on trial at San Francisco by a naval G. C. M. They are in substance: 1st. Falsehood, in denying before a naval court of inquiry that he signed certain papers, and in falsely representing that certain sums were due from the United States to various individuals. 2d. Countenancing a fraud against the United States in paying T. S. Sanderson mileage for journeys never made. 3d. Embezzlement. 4th. Scandalous conduct tending to the injury of good morals. 5th and 6th. Taking receipts for money in excess of the amount paid with intent to defraud the United States. 7th. Carelessness, neglect and culpable inefficiency in the performance of official duty. 8th. Purchasing supplies in a manner contrary to law. To all the charges and specifications the accused, through his counsel Mr. L. D. Latimer, pleaded not guilty, objecting at the same time to one of the specifications as indefinite, and to several others as barred by the statute of limitations. On the conclusion of the plea, Mr. Hagner said

that counsel for accused was not aware that he could not have pleaded the statute of limitations if he had desired, since the law has been so changed as to prevent that plea. Therefore the waivers were considered stricken out of accused's plea. The objection of indefiniteness was overruled by the court. The witnesses so far examined are Pay Inspector James Fulton, U. S. N.; Chief Engineer Elbridge Lawton, U. S. N.; Captain Thos. S. Phelps, U. S. N., and Wm. R. Cox.

LIEUT. Wallace Graham, U. S. Navy, died at Erie, Penn., on the 4th inst. His remains were taken to Chicago for burial. The *Chicago Tribune* pays the following tribute to him: "A large circle of friends both in the East and West, as well as his companions in the Navy, have been pained at the sudden death of Lieut. Wallace Graham, who has been an officer of the United States steamer *Michigan* for the past year or two. He had received orders from the Navy Department the very day he was taken sick to report for duty on board of the United States training-ship *Junata* as Navigator, a position for which he was in every way well fitted, and to which he had looked forward with pleasure. He was detained by an attack of pneumonia, and this terminated in death three days after. Lieut. Graham was a native of New York, entered the Navy Dec. 6, 1861, and was appointed to a lieutenancy in 1869. During the fifteen years of his service, his tall figure, commanding presence, thorough education, and exacting discipline, had made him conspicuous among the young men of the Navy, while his amiable disposition and affable manners had endeared him to all the officers with whom he was associated. Mr. Graham had frequently visited Chicago, and had formed many pleasant friendships in this city. There were formal funeral services in Erie, where the *Michigan* is stationed at present, and the remains were accompanied to the station by the officers, marines, and crew, in full uniform and with draped colors. The body was brought to Chicago for interment, to gratify the desire of Lieut. Graham's only sister, Mrs. N. K. Fairbank, at whose residence the funeral services were held last Wednesday, when Dr. Locke officiated. The pall bearers were Lieutenant-General Sheridan, Colonel Farrar, Major Huntington, and Messrs. E. K. Hubbard, J. K. Fisher, and Charles Fullerton, all personal friends of the deceased. Lieut. Graham leaves a young widow, the daughter of John Binsse, of Watertown, N. Y., to mourn with his father, mother, sister, brother, and many friends to whom his fine traits of character had endeared him."

A SAN FRANCISCO interviewer called on Norman Wiard, who was in that city recently, and learned from him that he was en route to China. As to the object of his mission, Mr. Wiard said: "I am going out simply to give an opinion upon the Chinese ports that ought to be fortified, how they should be fortified, and what general measures should be taken to resist an invasion of iron-clad ships. As to small arms, the Chinese have factories of their own, but in the direction of fortification and artillery manufacture they are very ignorant. I shall start a foundry for them and show how it should be conducted, though it will take two or three years to get to manufacturing large guns in that country. In the meantime, they wish to be prepared for any emergency, and will get a great many guns from this country. They have discovered that they can get as good a gun in this country as anywhere in Europe, at about one-tenth the cost. A 12-inch 35-ton gun in England costs \$72,000, while we manufacture 15-inch cast-iron guns, weighing 25 tons, for \$7,000, that will pierce an inch thicker iron plate than the English. I shall recommend the 15-inch cast-iron Rodman gun, rifled on a new plan of my own, and throwing a new projectile, though any of the old projectiles can be used in it as well as in any other gun. I am to examine the various ports and recommend the fortification of those which need it. As it now stands, an ironclad could sail up any river in China, providing it be navigable, and burn her towns at will. I propose to supply fortifications and ordnance capable of resisting the attacks of any sea vessels whatever. By a new plan of my own. I propose to place in the center of the channel of the harbor or river, as the case may be, a brick fort 300 feet high. The centre only will be of brick, and the sides composed of a sand slope from the top reaching to the water-line. Below that the slope will be continued with rubble stone. The brick centre will be perhaps 500 feet long by 100 feet wide, and the guns will be placed only on top. In shape the whole fort will be a truncated pyramid, with a parallelogram-shaped base. The great height of the guns will place them out of the reach of ships' guns, and from the top of the fort a plunging fire can be sent that will sink any ship that attempts to pass. The channel will be altered by dredging or filling as may be necessary, that the vessel entering the harbor must pass within easy range of the fort. The only way that the fire could be returned from the vessels would be by the uncertain method of mortars, and as bomb-proofs would be constructed on the top of the fort, these would have little or no effect. This is the plan I shall recommend. Whether it will be adopted or not I can't say. The fortification itself is I think, impregnable to modern sea-vessels. No ram can affect it at all. Torpedoes cannot injure it, and by various means the scaling of a sand slope by a force of men can be rendered impossible. The work can be done in a year, and by the time the fortifications are completed the guns, averaging 200 to a fort, would be ready. We can control about 400 or 500 guns, and the rifling of

them, as I propose, would take a very short time. I can go into a fort and convert all the guns without taking them off their carriages. The expense is about \$500 per gun, and the power is quadrupled. It takes very little time to do it, too."

We are glad so enterprising a reporter learned so much. If he will examine a file of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* he will learn some additional facts concerning Mr. N. Wiard and his great gun experiments. Mr. Wiard's scheme for preventing the ascent of Chinese rivers by foreign iron-clads is so admirable in its simplicity that we can suggest but one improvement upon it, and that is to fill up the rivers altogether. A calculation to determine what would be left of the channel of a river whose center was occupied with a truncated pyramid 300 feet high, 100 feet in diameter at the top, and with the proper slope, is one evidently much too trivial for so great a mind as that of Norman Wiard. There are 400,000,000 of people in China, so that the labor and expense of such an undertaking are of no consequence.

The following "confidential" circulars have found their way into print:

NAVAL ACADEMY, ANNAPOLIS, MD., Feb. 28, 1876.

SIR: At a meeting of the line officers of this station it was proposed to request each officer of and above the grade of Lieutenant to contribute \$5, and each officer below that grade \$3, to enable the committee to employ counsel, defray expenses, etc., in attempting to secure the repeal of the six year clause. Those who may desire to assist the purpose will please send the amount mentioned above to the committee. Should there be anything remaining after the contest it will be reserved as a permanent line fund, or will be returned pro rata to the contributors.

The committee will thank contributors to state which plan they prefer; or, if the amount is not sufficient we would be pleased if you will permit the committee to call on you again for an amount equal to that mentioned above. The committee will keep stations informed as to progress, and request the heartiest assistance from every line officer. Address one of the committee. Very respectfully, W. S. SCHLEY, Commander; P. H. COOPER, Lt.-Commander; C. V. GRIDLEY, Lt.-Commander—Committee.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 7, 1876.

MY DEAR SIR: So far as ascertained the three staff corps have unanimously decided to strive earnestly for the passage of the bill to regulate rank in the Navy, recently introduced by Mr. Stevens, a copy of which has been sent you. To secure this result it is thought essential by the paymasters stationed in Washington to ask pay officers to contribute funds at the following rates: Paymasters, \$15; Past Assistant Paymasters, \$10; Assistant Paymasters, \$5. If you desire to contribute will you please forward your amount to Paymaster W. B. Boggs, Navy Department? The other staff corps have already raised their proportion of the funds required for the same purpose, and the line officers are making every effort to defeat the bill with apparently no lack of funds. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, ROBERT W. ALLEN, Paymaster, United States Navy.

NAVY-YARD, WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18, 1870.

DEAR SIR: The General Committee of our corps, who are making their arrangements for the winter campaign of our "Rank bill," have deemed it necessary to make a further assessment on the staff corps, and to have the funds in hand before the meeting of Congress. Our committee here think the following assessment will yield sufficient funds to supply their wants, viz.: Paymasters, \$25 each; Past Assistant Paymasters, \$15 each; Assistant Paymasters, \$10 each. Many officers here have already sent amount to secure the passage of the bill, some offering as high as \$180. The other corps are actively at work. Our success in carrying our "Pay bill" without reduction, and the signal defeat of the pet "Admiralty bill" at the last session, show that we are not without strong friends in both houses. Hoping to hear from you, I am, sir, your obedient servant, WILLIAM BRENTON BOGGS, Paymaster United States Navy and Treasurer of Committee.

"A Naval Officer" publishes a letter explaining that the money raised by the Committee, of which Commander Schley was chairman, "was to defray the expenses of a lawyer to argue the legal and equitable aspects of the case before the Naval Committee," and by whom the case was so presented last week.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

MARCH 10.—Passed Assistant Surgeon A. F. Price to the receiving ship *Independence*, at the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

MARCH 11.—Lieutenant-Commander John R. Bartlett, to the Hydrographic Office.

Sailmaker George C. Boerum, to the receiving ship *Wabash*, at Boston, Mass.

MARCH 15.—Commodore George H. Preble, to special duty in collecting material for a detailed history of the Navy-yard, Kittery, Maine, from its organization.

Passed Assistant Paymaster C. K. Bartlett, to take up the accounts of the iron-clad steamer *Lehigh*, at Norfolk, Va., in addition to his present duties.

DETACHED.

MARCH 16.—Master W. M. Wood, from duty on the Coast Survey, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Howard Smith, from the receiving ship *Independence*, and ordered to duty at the Naval Hospital, Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

MARCH 11.—Sailmaker David Bruce, from the receiving ship *Wabash*, and granted three months' leave.

MARCH 15.—Lieutenant George Talcott, from Coast Survey duty on the steamer *Hassler*, Pacific coast, on the 1st April next, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

Lieutenant R. M. Cutts, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, on the 1st April, and ordered to report for duty on board the Coast Survey steamer *Hassler*.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Stephen Rand has reported his return home, having been detached from the *Kearsarge*, Asiatic Station, on the 19th June last, and has been ordered to settle accounts.

Assistant Paymaster J. T. Addicks, from the iron-clad steamer *Lehigh*, at Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the *Shawmut*, at Port Royal, on the 25th inst.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

Sick leave has been granted to Midshipman John W. Beane with permission to leave the Naval Hospital at New York.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the two weeks, ending March 15, 1876.

Charles Scott, seaman, February 4, Naval Hospital, Mare Island, Cal.

Samuel Smith, beneficiary, March 7, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

Edward Meade, beneficiary, March 7, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

HOWES & COMPANY,
Bankers, No. 6 Wall st., N. Y., Transact
a general banking business. Interest on
balances at Four per cent. per annum.
Registered and coupon interest on U. S.
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L. T. HOWES, F. A. HOWES,
Late of U. S. Army. Late of U. S. Navy

PACIFIC MAIL LINE.

FOR CALIFORNIA, JAPAN AND CHINA.

Sailing from pier No. 42 North River. For ASPINWALL:
Steamship CITY OF NEW YORK..... Oct. 30, 12 M.
Connecting for all the Central American and Pacific ports.
EXCURSION TICKETS to the CHILIAN EXPOSITION and
return, good till MARCH, 1876, \$351. GOLD.
OUTWARD Tickets only \$221. Gold.
From SAN FRANCISCO, for JAPAN and CHINA:
Steamship CITY OF TOKIO..... Monday, Nov. 1.
FROM SAN FRANCISCO FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND
LAND VIA HONOLULU, S. I.:
Steamship COLIMA..... Wednesday, Nov. 10.
For freight or passage apply at pier 42 North River.
H. J. BULLAY, Superintendent.

ORANGE SPORTING POWDER.

Orange Lightning Powder.

The strongest and cleanest Powder made. Nos. 1 to 7. Packed
only in sealed one pound canisters. The coarser sizes especially
are recommended to owners of fine breech loading guns, giving
great penetration with very slight recoil.

Orange Ducking Powder.

For Water-fowl. Very strong and clean. Nos. 1 to 5. Packed
in metal kegs of 6½ lbs. each, and canisters of 1 and 5 pounds.

Orange Rifle Powder.

The best for rifles and for all ordinary purposes. Sizes FG,
FFG, and FFFG, the last being the finest. Packed in wood and
metal kegs of 25 lbs., 13½ lbs., and 6½ lbs., and in canisters of
1 lb. and ½ lb.

All of the above give high velocities, and less residuum than
any other brands made.

Military Powder.

The MILITARY POWDER made by this Company is extensively
used and highly approved by the U. S. Government, and ex-
clusively used by the Russian Government for their cartridges
made in this country.

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THE New York Herald devotes an unnecessary
amount of space to the attempt to demonstrate that
one million dollars might be saved to the public
treasury by requiring all officers stationed in our
large cities to occupy quarters in the forts in their
vicinity. Not to dispute the figures of so able an
arithmetician, we would say that if a million dollars
or anything like it, can be saved in the way indi-
cated, by all means let it be done. We can assure
the Herald that the officers concerned will be the last
to object. The endeavor to maintain the expenses of
a city establishment on the pay of an Army officer
is not one that need excite the jealousy of the
civilians.

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THE NEW SECRETARY OF WAR.

THE appointment of Judge TAFT, as Secretary
of War, has been received with general favor.
He is a just, honorable, and able man, with a sound,
logical, legal head upon his shoulders, and will make
a good Secretary. The position has sought him, and
he takes it free from political or personal entangle-
ment, which might embarrass him in discharging its
duties as an honest man should, with sole regard to
the public good and the best interests of the military
service. His want of previous association with the
Army is an advantage rather than otherwise. The
duties of the Secretary are wholly civil; the intrusion
of the military element into the office has never done
the Army any good, and the less we have of it the
better. The proper relations of the Secretary to the
Army were set forth at length in a report made to
Congress in 1828, and again March 19th, 1844, in a
report to the Twenty-eighth Congress, to accom-
pany H. R. 44 of that year, which proposed to
abolish the office of commanding general, then major
general, and divide the United States into two sepa-
rate military districts of equal authority. This last
report presents so fully and clearly the correct prin-
ciples of military administration, that we insert it
here, especially commending it to the attention of
the Honorable Secretary.

March 19, 1844, Mr. Harlan, from the Committee of Military
Affairs, made the following report: Letter from the Secretary of
War, respecting the division of the United States into two mili-
tary districts.

War Department, Feb. 9, 1843. Sir: (Extract)
"In the organization as well as the discipline of an Army, the
leading objects should be to impart to it the qualities of unity,
celerity, and efficiency of action; and the great secret of confer-
ring on a body of men the highest capacity for physical execu-
tion will be found to consist in the integrity of its organization,
and the unity of purpose with which its operations are con-
ducted. Every part of an army, although destined to perform
its own separate and peculiar functions, should be connected
with every other part, through some common head or chief who
will give animation, impulse, and individuality to the whole.
From this head or chief of the Army all general orders for its
government should emanate; and to him every thing which re-
lates to its movements and discipline should be referred. My
opinion, therefore, is, that there should be at the head of the
Army of the United States—whether its numbers continue
as at present, or whether they be enlarged or diminished—
an individual higher in rank than any other officer,
and who should have the immediate command of the
whole; that he should be stationed, in time of peace at least,
at the seat of Government, where he can most readily receive the
advice and orders of the President, and where he can hold the
most direct and expeditious communication with every part of
his command.

"The present organization of the Army being in conformity
with the preceding views, it will readily be perceived that my
opinion is against the expediency of abolishing the office of
major-general.

"If it be said that the office of major-general being abolished,
the Army will still have a head in the President, or the Secretary
of War, by whom his military functions are discharged—the an-
swer is, that the Department of War does not form an integral
part of the military machine. The numerous civil avocations of
the Secretary of War would put it wholly out of his power to
attend to the daily orders, and complicated routine of duties,
which appertain to the command and discipline of an Army; and
the effect of a simple abolition of the office of major-gen., would
be to divide the Army, by dividing it into two sepa-
rate, independent, and probably conflicting commands, under the
two brigadiers, unless they should be connected through the in-
strumentality of the adjutant-general, or some other subordinate
officer stationed at the seat of Government, under the Secretary
of War, and who would in fact perform the appropriate duties
of the chief of the Army." (Views of General Peter B. Porter,
a former Secretary of War.)

These views are adopted, and fully and entirely concurred in,
by me. Their soundness and accuracy, it is believed, will com-
mend them to the favorable consideration of all. A few of the

topics suggested by General Porter are susceptible of
elucidation, although probably without much addi-
tional strength. The civil avocations of the Secretary of War
years ago, he stated to be so numerous "as to put it w-
of his power to attend to the daily orders and complicated
of duties which appertain to the command and discipline
army" so far from diminishing since that period, have been a-
mented and multiplied to an extent that renders the argumen-
ment perfectly conclusive. The functions of a Secretary of War are of
a civil and not of a military character, and are administrative
rather than executive. His business is more to superintend the
general arrangements of the service, regulate its expenditures,
and enforce responsibility, than to exercise military command.
It can rarely happen that he possesses an acquaintance with the
details of service, or experience in the art of war. By associating
with him, at the seat of Government, an officer of rank having
these qualifications, the system is rendered complete, and the
various talent requisite to a faithful and successful administra-
tion of the concerns of the Army may be brought into operation.

To devolve the peculiar duties of a commanding-general upon an
adjutant-general, would be making him, in fact, the commanding-
general. All that would be gained would be a change of title;
and instead of a major-general commanding the Army, an adju-
tant-general would do so. The nature of the duties of the office
of adjutant-general is wholly distinct from that of a commander;
he is in fact the adjutant of the commander, and we might as
well abolish the office of colonel of a regiment, and place its
adjutant in command of the lieutenant-colonel and major, as to
place the adjutant-general, whose official rank is that of colonel,
in command of brigadiers.

To abolish the office of major-general, merely to transfer the
same duties to one of the brigadiers, and thus, in effect, promote
an officer at the expense of another, besides the objections which
would arise from the conflicts and collisions between officers of
the same rank (which, from our past history, may well be antici-
pated,) would derange the military system of the country, which
has continued for more than twenty years (including the period
of the war, and destroy that unity in theory and in practice
which is created by having one acknowledged head, of a rank
superior to all other officers, and which is so well described by
General Porter as an essential part of any military organization.
It would violate the fundamental principle on which our whole
system is established—that the military force to be maintained
in time of peace should, as near as possible, be an exact epitome,
in all its parts, of the one which would be employed in time
of war.

After the expression of these views, it is scarcely necessary to
add that, in the opinion of this department, it is impracticable,
consistently with the existence of an army, to dispense with the
performance of the duties appertaining to a commanding general-
in-chief, and that the abolition of the office of major-general
would be most injurious to the military service of the country.

These views are by no means out of date. Our
gradual departure from them is working the de-
moralization of the service, and the sooner we return
to them the better. The operation of this system du-
ring the civil war, when each party kept in his ap-
propriate sphere, was illustrated by the immediate
successes attending our arms when it was fairly tried,
with STANTON for Secretary, and GRANT for General-
in-Chief. So long as there was clashing in councils,
and the civil power interfered with the military, all
went wrong. For the past year or two much the
same system has prevailed in time of peace, and with
results only less mischievous because the test of war
has not been applied to them. The entry of Secre-
tary TAFT into the War Department gives him an
opportunity to revive the traditions of the best pe-
riods of Army history, by restoring the General-in-
Chief to his proper relations to the Army. Let his
first act be to order General SHERMAN to Washing-
ton, and to put the Adjutant-General's office in its
proper relations to him as the vehicle of his commu-
nication with the service. Restore to him the au-
thority that of right belongs to him of directing the
movements of every soldier, subject only to the or-
ders of the President through the Secretary of War.
It is as "impracticable" now as it was thirty years
ago, "to dispense with the performance of the duties
appertaining to a Commanding-General-in-Chief"—
and the only question is whether that chief shall be
the head of the Army or the head of the Adjutant
General's Department. The commendation or the
criticism of individuals does not affect this question.
It is for a principle we contend, and a principle
vital to the integrity and the efficiency of the mili-
tary service.

The new Secretary of War does not pretend to
military experience, and is therefore free from the
itch for interference in matters strictly military, which
has, in previous cases, worked such mischief to the
Army. If, on carefully surveying his legal position,
he finds reason to share the sound views so forcibly
presented by his predecessor, Secretary PORTER,
47 years ago, he may establish a precedent in his
department, which will be of infinite value to the
military service, and he will earn the gratitude, not
only of our present Army, but of their successors so
long as we are a nation.

We can assure the Secretary that the Army, so far
from regretting that he has not been chosen from
among their number, see in this fact a good omen
for themselves and their future. They ask him only to
remember that to his hands are committed the inter-
ests of the Service in its entirety, and that the officers
stationed at Washington, while most agreeable and
justly popular gentlemen, are those who are, by force
of position and circumstance, the farthest removed
from representing the real necessities, interests, and
ambitions of the Army, nine-tenths of whom are sub-
ject to wholly different conditions from those which
prevail at the capital. They trust themselves with

good sense, his sound judgment, his position to deal justice to all, regardless of personal relations to himself.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BISSET, C. B., in an address before the Royal Colonial Institute in London, on the subject of "South Africa and Her Colonies," a copy of which we have received, proposes a federation of the British and Dutch colonies occupying the southern extremity of the eastern coast of the African Continent. The British hold the sea coast, with the exception of two comparatively small tracts still under Kaffir rule, from Mozambique southward. Cape Colony, Natal, Griqua Land and Basuto Land, in British hands, cover more than 375,000 square miles, contain about 220,000 white, and 930,000 black inhabitants, and have an export trade of towards £8,000,000 yearly. Wool and hides make up about one-half the exportation, and diamonds (from Griqua Land), one-quarter, or \$10,000,000 yearly. The Orange River Free State and the Trans Vaal Republic are Dutch, and have about 190,000 square miles of territory, 90,000 whites and 300,000 black inhabitants. In the small district of Kaffir country, which is entirely bounded by colonial settlements, there are about 10,000 square miles and 525,000 blacks.

These are the rough data from which to estimate the magnitude of the scheme. Add to them the fact that £5,000,000 is to be spent in building railroads in Cape Colony, and £1,000,000 in Natal; that in 1874 the ships that entered ports of the former numbered 1,458, with a tonnage of 700,000, and manned by 30,000 sailors; that steamships with a tonnage of 40,000 run five times monthly to and from the Cape; that gold, diamonds and copper are known to be present in quantities that may any day excite a great visitation of adventurers; that coal fields promise a more solid industry, and that the wool business, which has already made the Cape one of the great markets of the world, is capable of indefinite expansion; and we have the elements for calculating the prospects of the federation proposed.

The immediate advantages are very considerable. South African colonisation is not at a stand still. A fine, fertile and healthy country already very productive will gain a population which will not only increase in density, but also spread over new territory. Such movements cannot take place without bringing the colonists in antagonism to the Kaffirs, who have proved in three wars that they are not to be despised. General BISSET, who has been Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, and speaks from long colonial experience, thinks that federation will be a great aid to the whites.

But there is something more in this subject than the mere material prosperity of half a dozen African colonies. The scheme of General BISSET adds another to the indications which the example of Canada has recently afforded, that the principle of federation finds favor in the eyes of the British colonist. If his suggestion receives support from his own and the Dutch governments, this principle will receive at once the most extraordinary expansion in the union of colonies owning allegiance to two distinct and rival nations. One motive for the formation of the Canadian federation was to preserve the allegiance of these important colonies. In Africa, on the contrary, it is the needs of the colonies alone that prompts it. Thus our Centennial finds the mother country adopting the very principle of colonial federation for which we contended with her a hundred years ago, and out of the struggle for which grew our nationality. It can hardly be said that our example has produced the change. It is due rather to the growth of the existing colonies and to better comprehension of the principles of sound statesmanship. But it does teach Americans one thing. Looking back in history we see that the world's leadership has not remained permanently in the hands of any nation. One after another they have gained prominence through their sympathy with some great advancing change in the conditions of the civilized world. And this is one cause of the remarkable prosperity which has fallen to our own country. Without suspecting their leadership, our forefathers were nevertheless leaders in a world wide movement, an agitation in the human race which even in their day was a century and a half old, and must continue for centuries to come.

When COLUMBUS first saw American land, Europe

and Asia formed the whole of the known world, a few points on the edge of the African continent excepted. Since his day North America, South America, Australia, Africa and India have become the goals of the Aryan nations. Before the Revolution the colonising movement was very largely one of expulsion from the old countries. Now it is the reverse, and the change pivots on that struggle. We fought for principles, the recognition of which was necessary to the new movement of mankind. Had we failed, that war would have been fought again and again, for the impending changes in society and politics were inevitable. Our country will not on this account hold an unquestioned supremacy over other nations, for now-a-days statesmen are willing to learn, and countries do not fall back so rapidly as they have done; but so long as the great movement of Europeans to other continents continues, we may be sure the social economy and material prosperity of our country will have an importance that only the most wretched folly on our part can diminish.

THE BANNING bill for reducing the army, etc., has been so changed as to give promotion to all sergeants passing the examination, instead of as before to First Sergeants of Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry. The subalterns of the army will be glad to learn that there is a prospect that the bill giving them lineal promotion will pass. We certainly hope it will, as it should. The following changes have been urged upon the attention of the Military Committee of the House: to re-establish brevets, to organize a board of general officers to examine into the efficiency of of any officers sent before it, the board to recommend the officers to be dropped by the President—only Chiefs of Corps, Colonels of Regiments and General officers having power to recommend for this board: an officer so recommended to be ordered before the board; that the retired list be opened the same as the navy; three months to be allowed for a man to re-enlist, instead of one, as now, a man re-enlisting to be sent to his own company—if he so desire; that a ration of potatoes be allowed; every 15 years service to bring an increased grade, with pay, etc., but not to increase number of officers; a captain thus, for example, having served for 15 years to be a major with pay, but still doing, till a vacancy occurs, his captain's duty; to establish Cavalry and Infantry schools. Some of these recommendations have already been incorporated into bills offered. What army bill will pass, however, no one knows, and one man's guess is as good as another's. Congress is so busy laying pipe for the presidential election that they are not likely to do much else this session besides delving into investigations which lead to crimination and recrimination. What purports to be a conversation with President GRANT is reported, in which he is quoted as saying that most of the investigations are drag-nets without definite ends, and with designs to accomplish partisan purposes. The committeeman who is most active in his assaults upon the Government is the late Postmaster-General of the Confederacy, Mr. REAGAN, and the witness upon whom the Committee has most relied is a clerk who was discharged from the Chicago Post-Office for cause, and who obtained a position in the Post-Office Department under false pretenses. "Why," added the President, "they are even trying to investigate the conduct of the war. A short time before Mr. BELKNAP's downfall, the investigators sent to the War Department for all the records in the important McDowell investigation, in the Quartermaster's Department, in 1863. Mr. BELKNAP sent back word to the Committee that there was not clerical force enough at his disposal to copy the records, and that he could not permit the originals, on account of their importance, to leave the custody of the Department."

THE statement we published last week, in regard to the bill to amend section 1480 R. S., was made without any special examination, and on the direct and personal assurance of one of the officers interested that it contemplated no change in the law as it existed at the time of the adoption of the Revised Statutes. This opinion other officers do not share, and they ask with reason that the House Committee and Congress will not pass the bill, assuming this to be the fact. We have received several letters on the subject, which express great indignation at what is regarded as the disingenuousness of the assumption

in the bill, that it contemplates nothing more than a declaration of existing law. One officer writes as follows:

The "omission," really made, was of merely a temporary character, rectifying the mode of executing the act of which it was a part, and would have uselessly encumbered the Revised Statutes. The paragraph now professedly sought to be revived, for a special purpose, is as follows: "new commissions shall be issued to the officers so appointed, in which commissions the titles and grades herein established shall be inserted;" whereas the bill, which pretends to "supply this omission," reads thus: "a commission shall be issued to him, in which his title by relative rank and his grade shall be inserted." It surely cannot be necessary to point out to you the radical and essential difference between these two phrases; which, to the innocent and confiding Congressman, might readily appear to be identical—particularly if such Congressman belonged to the Committee on the Revision of the Laws, and was therefore (quite naturally) indifferent to the subject, and if the word "Navy" was inadvertently left out of the bill. The original law means that the doctor should receive a new commission as medical inspector; the amendment means that he should receive a commission as commander! Nor is this the final result aimed at. If he becomes a commander, all the restrictions, as to his right to quarters and to exercise military command, which now apply to him as a medical inspector, will be claimed to have been removed.

FROM a well-informed correspondent we learn that the following changes in the cavalry are in contemplation. Major Du Bois of the 3d Cavalry, and CURTIS of the 10th Cavalry will be retired, promoting Captain SHELDON STURGEON, 6th Cavalry, and CALER H. CARLETON of the 10th Cavalry. It is expected that STURGEON will be retired as a major, which will promote Captain NAPOLEON C. McLAUGHLIN, 4th Cavalry. Major Du Bois entered the service in 1855 from the Military Academy as Brevet Second Lieutenant, and Major CURTIS in 1851. Major CURTIS was wounded at Shiloh and again at Atlanta. Major Du Bois was wounded at Corinth.

WE learn that Quartermaster-General MEIGS, now in Europe on special duty, has been ordered home, and is now on his way to Washington, where he will resume the duties of his position at the head of the Quartermaster's Department. He is expected to arrive in the course of the coming week.

ACCOMPANYING the bill to transfer the Pension Bureau to the War Department, referred to in our report of Congressional proceedings, was a report from the Committee on Pensions, showing the advantages expected from connecting the bureau with the department, upon whose records its action is based. During the year 1875, 37,126 requisitions were made on the Adjutant-General for evidence from the War Department office, and 19,196 from the Surgeon-General's office, and 56,000 entries of these two offices have to be annually copied. This occasions such delays that fifteen years will be required to dispose of the pension cases on file for action. The Pension Bureau disburses thirty millions of dollars annually to 234,000 persons, and four per cent. of this amount or over one million dollars is consumed in office expenses. The report charges fraud and inefficiency against the bureau. The inefficiency arises from a want of experience in the head and employes of the office, consequent upon the bureau being administered as a political one, which leads to frequent changes. The number of clerks is 420, the law authorizing but 332. The number of pension agents in the country is 58, each of whom is entitled to a salary of \$4,000 besides fees. The annual cost of each agency is about \$7,700, while several of the agents disburse less than the average salary. Mr. Jenks says that by having the pensions paid directly from the bureau this whole branch of service, involving an expense of \$459,541, could be dispensed with without detriment.

THE following is published as a copy of a communication sent by James Trainer, formerly post trader at Fort Concho, to Congressman Hancock: I came to the State of Texas in the Spring of 1865 as sutler of the Fourth U. S. Cavalry, in which capacity I served with great satisfaction to every officer of the regiment until the appointment of General Belknap, soon after which I was advised that Fort Concho, where I was doing business at that time, had been given to General Hedrick, of Iowa, at present the Commissioner of Internal Revenue of Iowa and Wisconsin. I immediately proceeded to Washington, where I was advised I could see General Hedrick, and probably arrange to keep my position. Upon an interview with him he proposed that I should continue as sutler of the post by paying him \$6,000 per year. I did not think the business would guarantee so large a sum, and declined to treat with him. Soon after my return to Texas I was visited by Leighton, an agent representing General Hedrick, who proposed to allow me to remain by paying him \$1,500 down, and the remainder of the \$6,000 per annum in quarterly payments. I having purchased land, and expended some fifteen thousand dollars in building store-houses, besides having a stock of goods on hand which I would have been forced to sacrifice, had I been compelled to vacate my position, submitted to the proposition under protest. In a short time after this, W. T. Clark, then a member of Congress, commenced drawing on me, which drafts I at first paid, but on allowing one to be returned to Washington unpaid, I found myself suddenly relieved by one Josh Loeb, who, I am informed, paid a claim agent by the name of Wolff \$3,000 per annum for the position. Upon his arrival I was compelled to sell my houses and land, costing me originally \$15,000, for \$4,000, and my stock at a similar sacrifice. Thus I was compelled to compromise with my creditors as best I could, and left myself without a cent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

WE must ask the indulgence of our naval correspondents, who have written on the question of rank, started by "Law." We shall endeavor to make room for their communications, of which we have half-a-dozen, another week.

THE WILSON MONUMENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In your issue of the 4th inst., we find a copy of resolutions, adopted at a meeting held by the enlisted men stationed at Fort Vancouver, W. T., for the purpose of raising funds sufficient for the erection of a monument in honor of the late Vice President Henry Wilson.

In response to the call of the soldiers of Fort Vancouver, a meeting of this company was called, and a subscription of fifty dollars was raised at once. While they feel pleased to add this mite, a tangible though feeble evidence of the appreciation in which his services to the enlisted men are held, yet they do not deem it sufficient; but, as the suggestion of one dollar per man was proposed, it was unanimously agreed to contribute further should the occasion require it. The amount is a little in advance of that contemplated by the club at Fort Vancouver, the company numbering but forty men. At the close of the meeting, a vote of thanks was given to the soldiers who inaugurated so worthy and so grateful a testimonial as that for which the resolutions were framed.

F. K. PETTY, President of the Club.
CLUB ROOMS, CO. D, 16TH INFANTRY, SWAYNE BARRACKS, HUMBOLDT, TENN., March 7, 1876.

A QUESTION OF PRONUNCIATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: I have noticed that, as a rule, Army officers, besides many others, mispronounce the word *inquiry*, e. g., they say Courts of *In*quiry, placing the accent on the first instead of the second syllable, in violation of standards. An honorable senator was once corrected—perhaps with questionable taste—by Mr. Charles Sumner, who, rising in his seat, said: "The committee of inquiry, if you please!" The speaker, if annoyed, did not show his displeasure, but had the tact to politely thank Mr. S. Worcester's Unabridged gives the following, in point, from Mitford: "When Sir Fletcher Norton was Speaker, the Lord Advocate of Scotland, Montgomery, moving for a committee of inquiry to be appointed, gave the strong accent, after the Scottish manner, to the first syllables of the words *com'mittee* and *in'quiry*." This may seem to be a small matter for criticism, but I think it would be well to follow good standards, like Webster and Worcester, especially when one is using common words. F.

THOUGHTS ON NAVAL ADMINISTRATION.

BY A NAVAL OFFICER.—CHAPTER XVII.

"The nation that controls the sea controls the world."

Materiel of the Navy, concluded.—The Ordnance Question.—The Proposed Fleet of the Future.

The discussion of the question of the *materiel* of the Navy would be incomplete if, before closing the subject, as we purpose to do in this chapter, we should make no allusion to the Ordnance question. This matter, however, may be treated very briefly for several reasons, chief among which is the fact that the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department is keenly alive to the importance of disposing of the questions of detail at issue, having been, as is well known to those conversant with such subjects, generally, if not readily, progressive—disposed to advance rather than retrograde—advancing, however, in a manner befitting all advances in empirical science, at a pace cautious and conservative rather than with steps hasty and radical. The fact can neither be gainsaid or denied, that when proper supplies of money have been forthcoming, the armament and ordnance equipment of the vessels of the American Navy have been, as a rule, equal to, and generally superior to, those of foreign powers.

If, for some years past, we have seemed to lag in the ordnance race, it has been due rather to the paucity of the means available than to any other cause—the Bureau of Ordnance having been unable for lack of means to gradually re-arm our ships of war with heavy rifle cannon suitable to the exigencies of modern warfare. It has also been greatly hampered occasionally by the loss of considerable sums of money, which might have been used for this purpose, but which, under the system of civil and political administration which has long obtained in the Navy, have been diverted to pay for the experiments of visionary inventors and charlatans wielding Congressional and other political influence, and which it was safe to assert, from the very outset, were likely to result in no sort of benefit to the Government. The money thus expended might as well have been thrown into the sea.

Nevertheless, hampered as it has been by many drawbacks, the Bureau of Naval Ordnance has not been idle. The answer to any such charge is the establishment of the new experimental battery at Annapolis, the introduction of the new gunpowder; the important discoveries made in regard to the actual initial velocities of the old style of cannon powder, its low propelling force and great disruptive force; the

activity with which the bureau has sought to disseminate useful ordnance information by printed pamphlets and otherwise; to say nothing of the founding of the torpedo station, and the marked increase in practical knowledge resulting therefrom, as to the capacity of this new weapon, the torpedo, for purposes of offensive and defensive warfare.

To know now, also, if we did not a few years ago, that calibre for calibre the rifle gun is superior at all ranges to the smooth bore, and is, in fact, the only gun for battle. The singularly delusive idea derived from abroad, as to the superior racking power of one, and punching power of the other, against iron plating, has been generally dispelled. Ordnance men see now that the rifle gun can be made to rack as well as pierce by a simple change in the character of the powder charge or projectile. Still the rifle principle is by no means as yet worked out any more than is the subject of torpedoes and their proper application to purposes of offence and defence. Both subjects, in truth, may still be regarded as in a comparatively crude condition, as is only natural to an art whose principles and practice are not finally and fully determined. There is, after all, no inconsiderable feeling of comfort in all this. At all events, we are not committed, after an enormous expense, as is Great Britain, to a system of muzzle loading rifle cannon, in the teeth of the opinion prevailing at this time amongst the ablest ordnance experts, that it is only a question of time and improvement in mechanical details before muzzle loading cannon of large calibre give way entirely to breech loaders, and as great a stride in improvement is made thereby as occurred a few years since in the general substitution of breech loading for muzzle loading small arms.

In the matter of large rifle cannon for our Navy, we are certainly at this time wholly behind other nations, but as regards torpedoes and minor ordnance equipment we are, at all events, quite as far advanced as other maritime powers, even if in some particulars we are not in advance of them. We can, it is thought, afford to leave the future development of the torpedo question to the capacity and ingenuity of our officers and skilled inventors and mechanics. Our immediate and pressing need is a supply of heavy rifle cannon for such of our ships as are really worth re-arming, and as this is a question of money to be voted for the especial purpose, it concerns the legislative branch of the Government rather than the executive. The need having been stated, the failure to grant the supplies must place the responsibility for any future shortcomings in this respect fairly before the country.

All estimates for the Navy, however, should be made in great detail, and the appropriations voted solely for specific and well defined objects. This change, at least, in our present practice, will prove one most important reform. In regard to other ordnance matters, substantial improvement has taken place within a few years. New breech-loading boat howitzers, with excellent carriages and equipments, are being introduced into use. The Gatling battery gun or mitrailleuse is already in general use, while uniformity in the subject of small arms throughout the Service, has taken the place of the mixed and somewhat antique equipment of several years ago. Other improvements and simplifications are also in progress. Our ordnance storehouses and magazines are fairly supplied with material of war, perfectly good for purposes of re-armament, and we have on hand beside a large amount of smooth-bore ordnance material, which may be profitably and economically converted to use for the present class of vessels in the absence of new and improved ships, and more formidable weapons of offence. Therefore, the ordnance outlook is, on the whole, not discouraging, even if we have not all that it is certainly desirable we should have.

What is most to the purpose, however, is that those who preside in authority over this special subject are alive to the urgent needs of the Service, and have indicated by writings, official and semi-official, how improvement may be brought about. * Only one thing occurs to us in disposing of this matter, and that is, that the torpedo station, instead of being at Newport, should be consolidated with the experimental battery at Annapolis, and the whole placed under the command of the senior officer on that station. There are many reasons that suggest the change, which it is not necessary to state here, but which it is thought will occur to experienced naval officers—advocates of concentration rather than diffusion, and opposed to duplication of means towards a fixed end. To say nothing of economy, not the least of these reasons is the advantage which the change would afford to officers undergoing the "post graduate course," proposed in chapter v., to pursue their studies in ordnance, aided by the light of practical experiments constantly in progress at such a station. Though many of the young officers are fairly well informed in the theory of ordnance, it is the experience of the writer, at least, that few have had opportunities of acquiring the practical knowledge, so essential to a thorough insight into this most vital subject.

The same false sentiment in regard to naval education, which (as these papers have sought to show) pervades a portion of the Service, only a few years since placed the multiple of the branch of steam above that of ordnance and gunnery, at the Naval Academy, apparently in utter disregard of the fact that the ordnance of a vessel-of-war gives it its distinctive character, and its proper and intelligent use gives victory.

But we can leave the ordnance as well as other questions of materiel to which we have not alluded in these papers, where they at present stand, in full faith that all the necessary details will be reasonably well worked out, when the system of general administration is reformed, and the funds are intelligently and care-

* See official Reports of the Chief of Naval Ordnance for 1874, and especially for 1875. Also, Paper No. 3, of volume I., "Proceedings of the U. S. Naval Institute." Ordnance publications, etc., etc.

fully voted for specific objects, and for no others. What we have now to propose, is a fleet for the future, in accordance with the ideas given in preceding chapters—this fleet to be built and entirely completed in ten years, from this time, provided an annual appropriation of nineteen millions can be secured, of which twelve millions per annum shall be for the maintenance of the Navy, as it should exist reformed, and the remainder devoted to the gradual creation of the fleet proposed.

(To be continued).

SOME FACTS IN NAVAL ADMINISTRATION, VERSUS CHAPTER XV. OF "THOUGHTS ON NAVAL ADMINISTRATION."

THE argument of the writer of "Thoughts," in regard to the Bureau of Steam Engineering is, in brief, that the machinery designed for the Navy by that bureau is inferior to the machinery designed by outside parties, and, therefore, the bureau should be abolished.

Let us compare the alleged facts in chapter xv. with the actual ones, and see whether his deductions are fair.

Commencing with the antediluvians, the writer has praise for the *Princeton* and ridicule for the *Alleghany*, regardless of the fact that the engines of the former were so fearfully and wonderfully made that they were never afterwards imitated even by their inventor, and that several naval hulls, in much more recent times, and engined by outside parties, have shared the fate of the *Alleghany*, and been turned into store ships.

The strictures on the *San Jacinto* lose their point when we recollect that the engines of that vessel were designed and built by Merrick and Sons.

Passing to the vessels of the *Merrimac* class, "Thoughts" says: "The only real drawback to their almost perfect success as war vessels, was the character of the steam machinery designed for them by our *soci disant* naval 'engineers.'" The facts in this case are that of the six vessels built at that time, only one had her engines designed by a naval engineer, and he closely copied one of the most conservative English builders. Of the others, two were designed by the Tredegar Works, and one each by Merrick and Sons, Pease and Murphy, and the West Point Foundry.

We quote again: "Perhaps the most successful efforts were in the engines of the *Iroquois* and *Wyoming*, but for some unexplained reason, this measurable success was not repeated." The fact is that the *Iroquois*' machinery was repeated in the *Oneida*, and the *Tuscarora*'s was a duplication of the *Wyoming*'s. Besides which, one of these "most successful efforts" was most successful in the manoeuvres at Key West the other day in retarding the speed of the whole fleet, just as the *Pensacola*, also engined by "experienced civilian engineers," delayed Admiral Farragut's fleet when that gallant officer was hastening up the Mississippi River to capture New Orleans after passing the forts below.

In the midst of some generalities about the Steam Bureau, which verge upon personalities against one of its chiefs, we are informed that "A further cause, however, for the pitiable follies and failures of the period referred to, was the almost total lack of honest, open competition, and of those fair public trials which have, in Great Britain especially, done so much to foster engineering talent and enterprise." Let us recall some facts about "open competition" and "public trials": 1. Some of the vessels of the *Kansas* and *Nipsic* class, were supplied with machinery designed by civilian engineers, one with an English engine, and the rest with the bureau's machinery: the log books, signed not alone by the engineers, but approved and signed by the commanding officers, show a superiority in speed of the bureau's vessels of about two and a half knots. 2. In the similar competition between the vessels of the *Quinnebaugh* and *Sesatar* class, the bureau's machinery gave the greater speed by three knots. 3. In the competitive trial (not at the dock), between the *Winoski* and *Algonquin*, the vessel with the bureau's engine ran the other out of sight. 4. In the competitive trial between the *Madawaska*, *Idaho*, *Chattanooga*, and *Wampanoag*, the latter, with the bureau's machinery, attained a speed three knots greater than that of the fastest of the others, and double the speed of the slowest, and that this was not accidental is proven by the equal speed of the sister ship of the *Wampanoag*. It is a remarkable fact (not "thought"), that the results have been uniformly and decidedly the opposite of what might be expected from a perusal of chapter xv. of "Thoughts."

As to the compound engines, when we reflect that the present problem of engineering is the economizing of fuel, and that Congress deems it sufficient for the nation to have only a few small vessels for cruising over the world, we may possibly see the reason for the adoption of this type of machinery: nor is it a fact, that by the use of compound engines we court destruction in action from high steam, since the tendency in simple engines is towards the same high initial pressure; so that if "Thoughts" is correct in the alleged "cases during the late civil war in which the wholesale destruction of the entire crew was the consequence of the perforation of high pressure boilers," we will be at least no worse off than before.

We are glad to agree with "Thoughts" in his advocacy of the "measured mile trial." The injunctions in the Blue Book that "full steam power is never to be employed unless in chase or when absolutely necessary," and that "the commanding officer must be prepared to justify every expenditure of fuel for steaming purposes," have much to do with the alleged inferiority of our ships, and when the measured mile course is established, their speed will prove to be much greater than was "thought," and will approach, if it does not surpass the performances of the ships of her Majesty's navy, which it is so fashionable for our average naval officer to praise indiscriminately, while he disparages

those of his own country. After all, he unwittingly bestows the highest praise upon his own vessels by the comparison. Could flattery further go than to compare the performance for hours at sea, of our ten-year-old and fifteen-year-old vessels, after months of fouling of hull and depreciation of machinery, with the five-minute rush, in a dead calm, of a clean hull driven by highest steam and the latest improvements?

In concluding this already too long article, we submit that the statements in chapter xv. of "Thoughts," etc., are, in the main, so much at variance with fact, that the deductions therein may very justly be questioned, and the so-called remedy very safely rejected.

ANOTHER NAVAL OFFICER.

ARMY AND NAVY OPINIONS

We condense this week from our correspondence the salient points of several communications which have been lately received, which the crowded state of our columns prevents us from publishing in extenso.

An officer writes to call attention to an error in the Navy Register of 1876, as to the service of Chief Engineer Wm. W. Wood. In the register of 1875 he is credited with 19 years shore duty, and should have had a year added, making it this year 20 years. It is simply a typographical error, right in the copy, but overlooked in reading proof.

A correspondent who signs himself "Sound Sense," gives us "A voice from the ranks." He denies that the private's pay can be called "pocket money," in the sense of money expended for his own benefit solely. He refers especially to Captain Pollock's scheme of pay, and to the remarks of the JOURNAL thereon. He pursues: "In our branch of the service (the cavalry), the private leaves the pay table and faces the post trader, he owes him for blacking, tripoli, one blacking and two button brushes, a burnishing pad, sweet oil, etc., etc., at least \$2.50 per month. 'Ah! Mrs. Mc—, glad you are here, how much does my wash bill come to?' '\$1.50 per month.' 'Hallo! tailor, how much do I owe you?' 'Oh, not much this pay-day—for altering one blouse and one pair of pants—well I'll make it reasonable, say \$6.75.' By this time our poor private looks at the few remaining one dollar bills in a rather wistful way—'I say, E—, you owe me \$2.50 for half soling these boots of yours.' 'By jingo, that's so, here, take it!' 'All you that owe your barber bill, come up and settle!' Good God! (says E—to himself), I owe him \$2.00. Like a man he pays him, then looks at what is left—not as much as the two dollars they wish to reduce."

We must say that "Sound Sense" is not very sound in his letter. He will not seriously assert that this scene takes place every month, and that men pay any such average all the year round. Moreover, pocket money in civil life covers just such sort of expenses. \$6.75 a month is not a fair representative of the cost of altering uniforms. The only constant expense is washing; and no sensible man need owe a barber \$2 a month when he can shave himself, nor pay \$2.50 a month all the year round for polishing boots and buttons.

We have also received a letter from Columbia Military Lodge I. O. G. T., on the Sweetwater, Texas. It encloses an address to Good Templars and Friends of Temperance, to aid them in a petition to the House to prohibit the sale of alcoholic drinks on military reservations. There is no doubt that the end is a wise one, and that a similar prohibition, if enforced throughout the Army and Navy would work good, as a large majority of court-martial cases in both Services are directly owing to drunkenness.

"A Sergeant Major" sends us a long and well written letter on the pay of non-commissioned officers, of which the calligraphy is perfect. He calls attention to the fact that Ordnance and Commissary Sergeants receive more pay than Sergeant Majors, although the latter ranks them. He says very modestly that he does not grudge them their easy berth, but his point is very well taken as follows: A sergeant major is supposed to be an educated man, and besides that, he is required to know as much about the tactics as the regimental adjutant does. This is the headquarters of a regiment post and sub-district, and the business transacted through the adjutant's office amount to more in one month than is done in the office of the A. C. S. in six months. The same might be said of the regimental quartermaster sergeant, though they are in most cases better paid than the sergeant major, they generally being on extra duty as overseers, which pays them 35 cents a day extra duty pay. A sergeant major being the ranking non-commissioned officer is supposed to be an example to all other enlisted men, and I find that to keep up the style and appearance that is expected of me, I cannot save five dollars a year of my pay. Again, I see that the Hon. Mr. Banning, Chairman of the Military Committee, has introduced a bill to confine the appointments of second lieutenants to the graduates of the Military Academy, and first sergeants cavalry, artillery, and infantry, and to fix the pay of the first sergeants at \$40 per month. It appears that Senators and members of Congress have forgotten that there is any such rank as regimental non-commissioned staff officers. I am afraid that if Congress overlooks us for a few years more, a corporal will be receiving as much, if not more pay than the said regimental non-commissioned staff officers. We sympathize with "Sergeant Major."

J. F. writes about the discomforts of a recruiting depot with much feeling, and complains of the poor food, crowding, etc. This has existed and probably will exist for all time. A recruit, fresh from a good home finds army life hard at all times, and it is only as he gets to be "veteran" that he learns to make the best of everything and laugh at hardships.

An officer writes that the reduction of salaries of professors and cadets at West Point is either a breach of faith, or falls short of its alleged purpose. The sons of poor parents accepted appointments conditional

on support while pursuing their studies. He says: "It is well-known that the best officers and most promising cadets belong to the poorer classes. If Congress regards the Academy as unworthy of liberal support, but necessary in order to train the nucleus of an army, why not make it self-supporting? This may be done by requiring the payment, in advance, of \$1,000 per annum for each student, and the forfeiture of all balances in the event of failure or dismissal. Existing mental and physical standards may be retained, and as there would be pecuniary loss to parents of dismissed cadets the behavior and application of these would be as good as under the present system. Under the proposed system those who graduate would regard their pay as a secondary consideration, and would render service to the country only so long as it suited their convenience. The result would be rapid promotion, younger men would occupy the higher grades, and the advantage would be numerous—to the wealthy class. It is but a step from this to the 'purchase system,' found to have worked so admirably in the British army for the benefit of the same class."

"Citizen Soldier," who is not a militia officer, whatever his name implies makes an impassioned address "to the Army" to engage in politics, and to vote to save themselves from destruction by the "demagogue," whom he regards as an enemy which the Army is called on to fight.

There is no doubt that our Army can engage in politics and vote, but its numbers are so small that it can do but little good one way or the other. If its numbers are sufficient to influence elections, then it becomes a very dangerous power, as witness the Pretorian guards and the Roman legionaries under the later empire, and the French army in every revolution since 1830.

We have next a letter from "A Laundress," who "wishes to be heard from." She suggests that all married men in the Army should be attached to posts like commissary sergeants, so as to save the Government the \$100,000 paid for transportation of the laundresses, their wives. This would give the married men in the Army a decidedly soft berth.

Lastly, a correspondent calls the attention of "Esculapius" (in the JOURNAL of Feb. 26), to the fact that Captain Pollock's plan of pay provides for all non-commissioned Staff officers, where it says: "The pay of forty dollars per month, which is proposed as that of first sergeant, should be given to all non-commissioned Staff officers, both general and regimental."

ARMY AND NAVY IN CONGRESS.

THE time of the House of Representatives has been chiefly occupied during the past week with violent disputes as to the escape of the witness Marsh, the only witness to the impeachment charges against ex-Secretary Belknap. It appears that Mr. Clymer, the chairman of the committee before which Marsh testified, discharged him and offered to send his fees after him, and that the witness left Washington and was near New York on his way to Canada before the report of committee was read in the House. The fight came on when the Committee on the Judiciary brought in a bill providing that witnesses testifying under protest before Congress shall not thereafter be held to answer criminally in any court of justice, or subject to any penalty or forfeiture, on account of any fact or act concerning which he shall be so required to testify; and another punishing witnesses who willfully absent themselves from their place of residence, or conceal or absent themselves from the United States, or flee or attempt to do so to avoid testifying. Mr. Blaine and his friends succeeded in getting a hearing by refusing to vote, and so leaving the House without a quorum. At last they received half an hour, and having spoken their minds on the blunder of the committee in letting the witness go, the first bill was passed almost unanimously. The bill "in relation to witnesses" was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The fight was then renewed by a personal explanation by Mr. Clymer, who tried to show that Marsh was frightened away by the President, while Mr. Blaine showed that he had left before the President knew anything about it. Finally, on Friday, March 10th, Mr. Bass, of the committee itself, stated that the witness Marsh was let go by Clymer against the protest of Mr. Bass himself. Adjournment of the House closed the fight.

A further sensation in the House was afforded by another witness, Alcanus B. Wolfe, who was before the Naval Committee, and had refused to answer some questions about alleged frauds in the Navy Department. After being arrested he consented to answer, and was brought before the House to be discharged, when he fell into a fit, and caused a great uproar in the House and confusion for some minutes.

The following bills on subjects relating to the two Services were introduced: H. R. 2578, to require the construction of paymasters' offices on all naval vessels. Joint resolution (H. R. 81) to restore Albert W. Preston to the rank of colonel, U. S. A. S. 500, granting a pension to the widow of Admiral Winslow, U. S. N.

Petitions and memorials were referred as follows: The protest of H. L. Todd against certain irregularities in the U. S. Army, to the Military Committee. Petitions of Pennsylvania soldiers for 160 acres of land and \$200, to be given to all soldiers and sailors of the late war, to the same. This is about the 50th petition of the kind.

The following resolution was introduced and referred to the Judiciary Committee, March 9th:

Whereas Charles Hays, a member of this House, did on the 4th day of March, 1875, nominate one Guy Roosevelt Beardslee for appointment as a cadet of the United States Military Academy from the fourth congressional district of the State of Alabama; and whereas it is reported that said Hays did falsely certify to the Secretary of War that the said Beardslee had been an actual bona fide resident of the said district for over two years previous to the nomination aforesaid; and whereas it is extensively reported that the mother of said Beardslee paid to said Hays the sum of \$3,000 to obtain said nomination for her said son; and whereas it is justly due to said Hays that a thorough investigation should be had in order to ascertain the truth or falsity of said reports: Therefore,

Be it resolved, That the matters aforesaid be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, with authority to investigate the same and send for persons and papers.

The following was adopted: *Resolved*, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to report to this House whether officers of the Army have been promoted since the 22d day of June, 1874, as provided in section 1204 of the Revised Statutes, and if not, the reason for the same.

The following enrolled bills were signed: H. R. 29, for the relief of First Lieutenant Henry Jackson, 7th Cavalry. H. R. 80, was passed in the Senate with amendment, dating the commencement of pension of Mrs. Dyer, widow of the late Chief of Ordnance from "the passage of this act," instead of "May 20, 1874." S. 375, giving a pension to the widow of Brevet Major John Sanders, of thirty dollars a month was passed. H. R. 194, was passed in the Senate. It removes the disabilities of Samuel Cooper, Jr., of Virginia (Ex-adjutant-general, C. S. A.) S. 326, was favorably reported in the House. It gives a pension to the widow of Brevet Major General Rousseau, U. S. A. S. 568, authorizing the payment of prize money to the officers of the Farragut fleet for destruction of enemy's vessels in April, 1862, was transferred from Naval to Appropriation Committee.

The following reports were laid before Congress for the week ending March 10th: A letter from the acting Secretary of War relative to the Court of Inquiry in the Babcock case, and another transmitting a report of the Adjutant General, giving the names of officers holding diplomatic or consular office, and who yet have their names on the register of the U. S. Army.

The bills for the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department, have been made the special order of the House Committee of the Whole, for Thursday, March 30th.

GENERAL Gideon J. Pillow writes from Memphis, Tenn., a letter to the New York Herald, to show how, in his opinion, the border raids in Texas can be prevented: It would require, he argues, a mounted force of 10,000 men on that frontier to guard it from these robber raids, and the expense to this Government of such a force, constantly held on that line, would be an intolerable burden. To place a force equal to the duty of following these organized bands of robbers into Mexican territory and there chastise them, and thus put an end to these invasions, would not accomplish, he thinks, the desired results, for a variety of reasons which he gives. There is but one remedy, he reasons, for these troubles that will give permanent peace to the border. That remedy is for our Government to take possession of the States of Tamaulipas and New Leon, making the Panuco River and the Sierra Madre Mountains the boundary between the two governments. This being done it should organize these States into territorial governments, arrest and try all the robbers they can catch by a military commission, for murder, robbery, etc. That will give peace to the country, and will add to it a territory equal in its ability of productiveness and its climate to the Island of Cuba. He concludes: "From the Panuco River to Saltillo, a distance of about 600 miles, there are but two small and narrow passes, only capable of allowing a single mule to pass, and these passes are high up on the mountain. The first of these passes, going north, is known as the Santa Barbara pass; the second is at Victoria. Fortify these passes and a single company of artillery could protect them against any force which could come against them. At Saltillo, in front of which is the battle field of Buena Vista, the great road from the capital of Mexico passes to the north. This pass fortified, a regiment could hold it against any ordinary force. From Saltillo the line should form the main chain of mountain northwest until it intersects our present boundary line. It would cut the States of Coahuila and Chihuahua. This was the boundary that President Polk was most anxious to have established when we had conquered all Mexico, and which he would have established but for embarrassments I need not here advert to. The writer marched over this country during the Mexican war, and has a personal knowledge of what he has written. Mexico has given us constant cause of war for the past ten years. I do not favor declaring war against her. But if she is sincere in saying she cannot control the population of her two northern border States, it becomes a necessity for our Government to take possession of the territory to this great natural boundary, and ourselves govern and control this turbulent element which she cannot control. This would be indemnity for the past and security for the future." If Mexico chose to consider this act of ours a cause of war (as it would be), let her accept it and have it to her heart's content. If she wanted a few million of dollars to reconcile her to the loss of territory, give her \$5,000,000 or even \$10,000,000. This done we should have no more border troubles. The Panuco River is impassable at all times except in ferry-boats, and for 600 miles no living animal could pass over the mountains except at the two narrow passes already indicated above."

THE St. Denis Hotel, which has recently been thoroughly refitted, is very conveniently situated for officers visiting New York. It is on the corner of Broadway and Eleventh Street, and a short distance above Army Headquarters. It is on the European plan, and under its present management is establishing a high reputation for elegance and comfort.

At the commencement exercises of the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., week before last, two of the enlisted men of the United States Army received the degree of M. D. Their names are Fred M. Guyon, Hospital Steward, U. S. Army, and Albert C. Ford, Sergeant Signal Service, U. S. Army. Sergeant Ford served as a private in Co. C, 13th Infantry, and Steward Guyon for several years in the Medical Department.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH.—The "Volunteer Service Gazette," which is the official organ of the English National Rifle Association, lately published an article on the subject of the personal composition of an Imperial British Team, in connection with the American invitation "to England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, France, Austria, the Dominion of Canada, the South American States, and all countries having rifle associations or clubs," to shoot in a Centennial match.

This article, in commenting on Sir Henry Halford's correspondence with the National Rifle Association of New York, takes ground which we have not hitherto seen stated officially, but which it seems to us is untenable and illogical. The position is taken in support of Sir Henry Halford and the English association; and to understand it fully, a brief recapitulation of facts is necessary.

The invitation, sent as above, it appears, was accepted by the council of the English Association November 27, and Sir Henry Halford appointed captain of the "British" Team with power to arrange preliminaries. Major Drake was appointed adjutant of the team. The method by which the team of eight men, and four waiting men, is to be selected was also given. The team was to be a United Kingdom team, composed of the best twelve shots, whether English, Irish, or Scotch, to be found willing to go to the States under the prescribed conditions. Sir Henry Halford telegraphed to the New York Association to know what kind of team would be accepted, and received the answer that any team would be accepted—English, Irish, Scotch, or mixed. In consequence of this message, another meeting of the council was held, at which it was resolved that the National Rifle Association "do accept the invitation of the National Rifle Association of New York to organize a team to represent the United Kingdom at the match to take place this year in America for the Championship of the World, provided that no other independent team sent from either England, Scotland, or Ireland be included in that match. That Sir Henry St. John Halford, having been appointed the representative of this Association for the conduct of the proposed match, be requested to communicate the above resolutions to the National Rifle Association of New York, and to make all necessary arrangements."

Thus far the "Gazette" (February 5) merely recounts the facts, which we have at intervals laid before our readers. It then proceeds to justify the action of the council, which we cannot but regard as entirely unsound as concerns America. The "Gazette" says: "It will be seen that the council have had the wisdom to take the bull by the horns, and to anticipate the possibility of discussion or debate by declaring that, if a team is to be organized at all under its auspices, it must be a team representing the United Kingdom, and not any one or more of its parts, and must, moreover, be the sole team sent from these islands to compete for the Championship of the World."

The illogical position taken by the English council and thus upheld by the "Volunteer Service Gazette," is, it will be observed, only towards the New York Association, and the distinction is so exceedingly delicate as to have deceived both the editor and the council into the honest belief that they are really doing a wise thing, whereas they are only committing what other nations will probably regard as a discourtesy, however unintentional. For it must be remembered that the American invitation is not a challenge in any sense. It is an invitation, pure and simple, to all the world to come and shoot at a match for which we shall furnish a prize. It does not even bind the United States to send in a team at all. The position taken by the Imperial British Association is really that of a person invited to a banquet, who stipulates with his host as to who the other guests shall be; and this no man has a right to do.

As regards the position of the N. R. A. towards the provincial associations, the note is no less illogical, for it will be observed that only England, Ireland, and Scotland are excluded, whereas Canada, no less an integral part of the British Empire, is allowed under the protest to send a team. With this, however, we have no concern, save as a matter of individual opinion. Our point is, as representing the National Rifle Association of New York, that no recipient of an invitation can attempt to dictate terms to the giver of the invitation without discourtesy. He has only two courses open, acceptance or rejection. The British Association has a right to settle its own matters in its own sphere, but has none to trench upon that of any other nation or association.

We are glad to see that the directors of the New York Association have taken the same view of the matter after due deliberation. On Monday, March 13, they met and directed an official reply to Sir Henry Halford. After reciting the original resolutions inviting all the world to the match, they continue:

"Our president and secretary complied with the request contained in the foregoing resolution by sending a copy of the same to every rifle association and rifle club whose address could be obtained, throughout the world, regardless of nationality or territorial location, . . . stating that the principal match 'would be for the Championship of the World, at long range, open to teams of eight from each country.' We must, therefore, assume that the official communication described above is now in the possession of every known rifle association or club. A strictly technical construction of the foregoing conditions, viz., 'open to teams of eight from each country'—would undoubtedly require Great Britain and Ireland and the English Provinces to be represented in the match in question by one team only. This was not our intention. We intended the match to be free to all, in the broadest sense. We mentioned particularly England, Ireland, Scotland, and the Dominion of Canada, that each might have an opportunity to send a team. In adopting this course we had Ireland especially in mind. Remembering our contacts with her in 1874 and 1875, and the pleasant intercourse they afforded; and being also aware of the fact that Ireland, in holding the Elcho shield, stands forth at present as champion of the British Isles, we did not think we could with propriety—and we know we could not in justice to our feelings—fix such conditions as would necessarily exclude her from representation."

"Our telegram to you of January 18—'Any team you organize will be accepted—English, Scotch, Irish, or mixed'—was not intended to give you the option of sending either one or three teams from England, Ireland, and Scotland, but was intended to give you, as the deputed representative of the National Rifle Association, the privilege of bringing over a team of any character you choose to organize, leaving Scotland and Ireland to accept or decline our invitation as they might elect. No further or other action in the premises than as above appears has been taken by our association. If Scotland and Ireland, or either of them, are not disposed to accede to the propositions of your National Rifle Association, we do not see what action we could properly take that would force their compliance. It is obvious at this late day we cannot recall our invitations, nor can we change the conditions of the match. Scotland and the Dominion of Canada have accepted, and

we shall deeply regret if England does not also accept on her own behalf, and afford us the pleasure of meeting upon our grounds a purely English team. Our invitation was not designed to bear in any aspect the appearance of a challenge. We organize a match, provide a suitable trophy, invite all to come and compete, and propose to call the winning team Champions of the World. It is our judgment that a single team from England, Scotland, and Ireland combined would increase the chances for American success, simply because there would be two less teams in the field. Our desire, however, to see a larger number of competitors exceed our desire to win. Nevertheless, if England, Scotland, and Ireland should agree together to send over an imperial team, we shall cordially welcome them to the match."

ARMORY RIFLE PRACTICE.—The armories of the Seventh, Eighth, and Twenty-second New York were inspected last week by the general Inspector of Rifle Practice, Colonel Wingate, with Colonel Mitchell, inspector First Division, and Major Wylie, Third Brigade, accompanied by General Shaler.

The Seventh regiment armory was found in admirable order. The manner in which it is fitted up has been already described in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and is substantially that prescribed in "Wingate on Rifle Practice." The number of targets has recently been increased to six, four of which are available for either a standing or lying position, and two can only be used standing. The distance is sixty-five yards, the targets being scaled for fifty yards, the variation being allowed to make up for the difference between the light in a gallery and that of a range. By an ingenious arrangement a large danger flag is suspended in front of each target, which is raised and lowered by a cord, and which when dropped obscures the target completely. Everything was in perfect order, and may be considered emphatically as a model range, reflecting great credit upon Captain Robbins, the regimental Inspector of Rifle Practice. The regiment practices with the regular rifle and carbine ammunition. The candle practice is conducted in the squad drill room, a gas pipe being used having miniature targets in front with the bull's-eye cut out, the light coming behind the opening. The regiment has monthly matches by selected teams from each company, which excite much interest. The Eighth have made no change in their gallery from last year. It is literally a gallery, as they shoot the length of the balcony overhanging their drill room. There being no means of ventilation, the smoke hangs heavily, and great inconvenience is experienced even with the carbine cartridge. Colonel Scott has made a requisition for sub-calibres, but has not yet received them. Arrangements for candle practice are contained in the squad drill room, but none as yet have been made for aiming drill, the number of recruits having been so great that their time has been taken up with other portions of the drill. Captain Barker, however, proposes to commence this drill at once. The Eighth intend to take hold of the matter vigorously when they do, and to spare no pains to keep up their figure of merit, being proud of standing at the top of the list. The arrangements for rifle practice in the armory of the Twenty-second consist of a barrier extending along the east side of the main drill room, on which are placed nine pasteboard targets. No intermediate barriers are used. In practice the squads are drawn up in line on the other side of the drill room and each man fires one shot. The marker then comes out from behind a shelter at one side and calls off the number of each target and the position of the shot, at the same time passing over the hole. The mode is somewhat rude, but is more expeditious than would at first seem possible. It also accustoms the troops to have others firing near them. The barrier in the rear of the targets is a good deal hammered, and the general arrangements showed signs of neglect, particularly when compared with the Seventh. There are no facilities for aiming drill or candle practice. Some of the companies have introduced team matches with good results. The absence of Captain Loomis, the Regimental Inspector of Rifle Practice, has prevented anything being done towards a general system of instruction in shooting.

THE DOUGLAS LETTER.—We have not hitherto noticed an affair which has created some little sensation in New York militia circles, because we imagined that time and good sense would cause it to come to nothing; but the progress of events compels us to mention it. It is connected with the recent disbandments, especially that of the Eighty-fourth New York, and the trouble has all come of rash letter writing and still rasher publication of letters in daily papers. We refer to the now pretty well known letter of Captain Douglas, supernumerary, late of the Eighty-fourth New York, published in the New York "Sun," some weeks ago, which has brought that officer into trouble, and finally occasioned a court of inquiry on the subject. At the time of the disbandments, an article was published in these columns, in which the composition or ruling element of the Eighty-fourth was slightly adverted to, in connection with that of the Seventy-ninth; and that article seems to have given great offence to Captain Douglas, of which we knew nothing for nearly a month. This appeared subsequently at a casual conversation in a friend's office between Captain Douglas and the National Guard Editor of the JOURNAL, in which the latter made some careless and unofficial remarks on the source of his information as to the article in question, never intended for publication, and avowedly made only from vague memories of the transaction. It seems that the New York "Times" was also into the trouble, and something had been said or published therein that had further excited Captain Douglas's anger and suspicion. Therefore, on the basis of the loose unconsidered talk of various persons, and, as it now appears on the hearsay testimony of others, Captain Douglas was rash enough to publish an open letter to Gen. Woodward, State Inspector-General, accusing him of furnishing false information to newspapers, especially the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, concerning the Eighty-fourth New York, and making an attack on him in other respects, which nothing but the most positive information could have justified. On this letter, General Woodward demanded a court of inquiry, and the court was ordered, consisting of General Wm. G. Ward, First New York Brigade. On being asked for his basis for the letter to the "Sun," Captain Douglas referred to the militia editors and reporters of the JOURNAL and "Times," and some other people. These were called, and not only failed to prove his allegations, but showed that he had totally misunderstood and misinterpreted them, and that they had received no original information whatever on the subject of the disbandments from General Woodward. In short the accuser failed utterly to show any cause why his letter should not be pronounced entirely baseless or only founded on the merest rumors and hearsay evidence.

This case illustrates a caution that is of some importance to the National Guard in general. It is this. Never write to a newspaper about a grievance which you think you have officially sustained. It does no good and much harm. In most cases your own feelings, being warmly enlisted, blind you to the real nature of the case, and you catch up half information of all kinds, seizing only what suits your own views, till with the best and most honest intentions you find yourself placed in the position of a falsifier. In this

Douglas case there is no doubt of the honesty of intention, but prejudice and feeling have combined to place the captain in a position where only his unconditional retraction can probably save him from being censured in orders for indefensible conduct.

EQUIPMENTS.—The new catalogue of BAKER AND McKENNEY, the military goods dealers, which we have just received, furnishes the only perfectly correct drawings of the late changes in military dress made in the United States and elsewhere which we have yet seen. Some such a catalogue has been needed for some years for young officers not yet acquainted with the regulations of General Orders, etc.; and the only similar work that we know of, hitherto published, was about ten years behind the times, furnishing only the patterns used during the last war. We advise all young officers who wish to know what the present equipments of all kinds are, to send for one of these catalogues to the publishers. It contains full drawings of every kind of cap, hat, or helmet which is now used in the Army or National Guard, with every variety of those plumes which are becoming so universal in all our crack regiments. Every variety of belt and sword is also presented.

NEW YORK ORDERS.—G. O. 3, A. G. O., corrects omissions in reports of rifle practice, and gives the figure of merit of Washington Greys as 39.61. It also reports Captain Peck, I. R. P. Twenty-seventh; Captain Mulligan and Private Penfold, Seventy-fourth, and Sergeant Montgomery and Private Humphrey, of Troop A, Twenty-fifth Brigade, as having won the marksman's badge in 1875.

G. O. 4, A. G. O., announces that the State Examining Board has made the following recommendations, which are confirmed: That Colonel E. J. Loomis be retained in command of the One Hundred and Third regiment; that the commission of Second Lieutenant William H. Finlay, Seventy-fourth regiment, be vacated for disobedience of orders; that the commissions of Colonel Albert F. Smith, Forty-eighth; First Lieutenant Frederick Fiesler, Twenty-eighth, and Second Lieutenant James Peattie, Twenty-first, be vacated for ignorance of tactics.

G. O. 5 announces the amendments to the code passed by the present Legislature. The substance of these amendments was published in the JOURNAL of January 15 from the proposed bill before its passage. It amends sections 42, 70, 253, and 354. It gives the Inspector of Rifle Practice full powers, provides for the assignment of supernumerary officers, and permits men to remain in regiments after their five years has expired, till they choose to apply for a discharge.

G. A. R.—General Orders No. 10, Philadelphia, March 4, state that a change in time fixed by General Orders No. 5, c. s., for the assembling of the national encampment has been decided on by the Council of Administration, as the Army Societies have concluded to hold their reunions at different dates. The National Council of Administration will meet at headquarters on Thursday afternoon, June 29, and the national encampment on Friday, June 30, at 9 A. M. The hall will be hereafter designated. A parade of the order will be held on Saturday, July 1. Details to be given in future orders. The Centennial Committee G. A. R. hope to be able to issue, shortly, a circular giving in full the arrangements for quarters. The question of uniform has doubtless received the attention of departments and posts. It will add greatly to the appearance, if the posts in each department represented at the Centennial should be in uniform.

BATTERY K, FIRST NEW YORK DIVISION.—Pursuant to Special Orders No. 10, from headquarters First Division, N. G. S. N. Y., an election will be held at the armory, corner of Broadway and Forty-fourth street in the city of New York, March 22, at 8 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of choosing a captain, vice Captain John N. Heubner, resigned. There will be a mounted drill at the riding school, No. 7 and 11 West Thirtieth street, Thursdays, March 16 and 30, at 8 P. M.; battalion drill at State Arsenal Thursdays, March 23 and April 6.

NINTH NEW YORK.—Wing drills and a series of division drills will begin next month in the Ninth. The colonel has deemed it wiser not to have any sooner, thus giving the companies a chance to have plenty of drilling, and the proper setting up. The squad drills are well attended, and no man will be allowed to drill with his company until he shall have been thoroughly drilled. The non-commissioned officers drill Saturday, March 18, under the lieutenant-colonel and adjutant. Company C, Captain Tallman, held an election for first, fourth, and fifth sergeants on Monday, March 13, after their drill. Sergeant Wm. H. Platt was elected first sergeant—a deserved promotion, he having served six years, and rarely absenting himself from drill. Ex-Captain Romans, who has lately joined Company C as a private, was elected fourth sergeant. He is quite an acquisition, by the bye, to this company, being of good physique, and having a splendid war record, having served with distinction in the Sixth Infantry, Fourth Artillery, and Eighth Massachusetts Infantry. Corporal Earle was elected fifth sergeant. Company C is now on the right of the line, and has been recruiting briskly lately. Companies B and K have squads of fourteen and eighteen men each, and at the end of the season will no longer be termed the small companies. They not only go in for quantity, but are very particular as to quality. Company D last week had 65 men to drill; Company A had 70; Company C, 40; Company E, 74; Company G, 45; Company H, 40; Company I, 62; Company K, 43; and each of these companies have recruit squads besides. These figures show that the Ninth is next to the Seventh in attendance to drill, over all other regiments in the First or Second Divisions.

TWELFTH NEW YORK.—Friday evening, March 10, this regiment drilled at the State Arsenal for the first time this year or season, and offered a great contrast to its performance of last year. Then, the Twelfth was very small, but still compact, and one of the best drilled regiments in the city. Now it has increased largely in numbers, but is also full of very green material, which is not yet "licked into proper shape." The officers are nearly the same as last year, and we notice the same faces among the sergeants, and these retain the same old activity and vim that they had last year; but the number of recruits is so large that the efforts of all the officers and sergeants cannot make a smart regiment of them as yet. Colonel Ward took from Adjutant Murphy a force of 128 files, in eight commands, and put them through a long and vigorous course of the same sort of sprouts that he used to indulge in last winter; but the men in the ranks failed to respond with the same exactitude and "snap" that used to distinguish them. Not a mistake was made during the drill by officer or guide, and therefore everything went smoothly, but every movement occasioned more or less crowding and confusion, except simple marching in column of fours. This was partly owing to too many men for the room, and partly to green men in the ranks. The movements comprised close column and double column formed in every way allowed by the tactics. These all depend on the company officers. The latter were all right, and the drill was all right. It was in dressing in line, deployments, and manual, that the poor individual instruction came in. It seemed as if about half of the men ought not to have been allowed to come out in

the battalion, or even company, till they had been put through squad drill. As the case stands now, with the increased numbers of his regiment, Colonel Ward ought to hold wing drills at the arsenal with only four companies at a time. There he would have plenty of room. A crowded drill is no good for the instruction of recruits. For well drilled men it is good practice in smartness, but recruits it only confuses uselessly. Moreover, it would be positively time gained for the whole regiment, and every officer and sergeant in it to set themselves to work at nothing but the manual and squad drill with the recruits, for a whole month, if need be, leaving battalion drills alone. These latter are only for the instruction of officers and guides. In the Twelfth both these seem to know their business perfectly. Now is the time for the men. They need to learn the manual thoroughly, by the metronome or by counting aloud. At present it is very bad, while in the Twenty-second (sister regiment in the brigade) it is very good, and in the Seventh absolutely faultless. The manual does not take long to teach, if every man buckles down to work; and that is the most pressing need of the Twelfth now.

After the drill Company B presented Captain Charles Burns with a handsome regulation sword, which he well deserves. Then came a dress parade, at which it was noticeable that this same company and that of Captain Van Rensselaer had the only good manual in the regiment. At the close of the dress parade, the marksmen badges were awarded to the regiment. The Twelfth had more marksmen than any regiment in the United States for the year 1875.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., GREYS.—This company has taken the initiative towards recruiting a proper representation of the volunteer corps of the South at the Centennial. Captain John G. Winter addressed a communication through Colonel Tyler, commissioner of the South, to the president of the Centennial Commission at Philadelphia in reference thereto, and his views met with a cordial endorsement. The Greys propose to secure the co-operation of the military companies of other Southern States, and will issue circular letters of detail and invitation as soon as all necessary facts and information are obtained from the Inspector-General, who now has the plan indicated by the Greys under consideration for arrangement. We hope that this move on the part of the Greys will meet with cordial co-operation, and that the military of the South will appear in handsome numbers in the celebration of an event of which the Greys and the Blues are alike justly proud.

FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS.—Company A was inspected March 6. Their armory was good, but the floor was too slippery for drill. Three officers and forty-six men were present. Ranks opened well. At the command "Inspection arms" two men came up. Steadiness was good, except on left of front rank, where the presence of a number of the fair sex, aided by a plentiful supply of confectionery, made it rather trying to the nerves of those in the ranks—perhaps excusable under the circumstances. Manual of inspection was good. Arms, uniforms, and accoutrements were in fine condition, but overcoats miserable, the collars, sleeves, and capes in a number of cases being missing. These were furnished, we understand, by the State to replace coats lent to another organization. Company drill was good for the state of the floor, which was more in condition for a ball than drill. The only poor movement was forming single rank, where not enough distance was taken, causing unnecessary confusion and crowding when wheeling into line. In forming double rank there was a loss of distance on left. Manual was good, except secure, where a number executed reverse, and the order was too hard. Company B has one of the finest armories in the State. Present, two officers and forty-four men. First sergeant did not fix bayonets previous to turning companies over to captain. Ranks opened finely. Manual of inspection was good, and steadiness good. Arms were finely kept; knapsacks good. Uniforms and accoutrements excellent. Manual poor, very slouchy, and out of time. Nearly half of this company executed reverse for secure. Lieutenant executed the present during manual, and guides and file-closers the present and charge bayonets. In the company drill the step was too fast and badly cut up, and distances were poor. With these exceptions, movements were generally well executed, but not up to the standard we expect from a company with such facilities for drill as Company B, of the Fourth. The company commander shows a good comprehension of his tactics. Company C has a miserable apology for an armory, in comparison with Company B—a room where half a company cannot stand in line. This certainly presents little encouragement to the commander, and is very liable to weaken interest in the command. The city seems to take little interest in the company, or it would provide it with more suitable quarters. Present, two officers and thirty-five men, too small by far for such a company. Ranks were well opened. Manual of inspection good. Arms, uniforms, and accoutrements good. Knapsacks and overcoats fair. No company drill attempted, owing to lack of space. Manual very good, showing what the company is capable of doing. With a decent armory the company would work wonders.

NINTH MASSACHUSETTS.—The right wing held a drill at the Institute shed on Friday evening of last week. We regret to say that the Ninth has shown but little activity this winter as regards the wing drills, leading many to think that the interest is at a very low ebb. The result is anything but gratifying to the regiment's many friends. For some time the Ninth has been considered one of our best drilled organizations, but it must be far from its usual standard now, owing to this lack of drill. We are glad to see it again waking up, and trust there will be no intermission until it has reached its old position. It can be accomplished. The regiment is to parade on the 17th inst.

FIRST MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY.—Company B was inspected on March 8 at the armory in Boylston Hall—one of the best in the State. Present, three officers and fifty-seven men. Ranks were well opened. One lieutenant did not face about at inspection until nearly half the front rank had been inspected. Manual of inspection was good; steadiness good, except on left of front rank. Sabres, horse equipments, accoutrements, and uniforms were good. Drill was good for irregular cavalry, although a number of errors occurred. Distances were very bad, causing either crowding or gaps when wheeling into line. Step poor, cadence too fast. Sabre drill was good, all being familiar therewith, and putting considerable life and animation into its execution. We were much pleased with the company, and if a little more time is given to company movements, in which the company is rusty, we see no reason why it should not hold a position second to none in the State.

FIRST MASSACHUSETTS BRIGADE.—S. O. No. 24 orders an inspection in Company D, First Cavalry, March 22. S. O. No. 25 orders an inspection in Company C, First Infantry, March 13.

—On Tuesday, March 14, the Washington Greys drilled at the New York City Arsenal in the school of the company and sabre exercise. They have made great improvement, but need much more before they can give a show drill in sabre exercise.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—On Saturday, March 18, a reception will be given by the drum corps of the late Ninety-sixth.

—Lieutenant Gibson has been elected captain of Company F, Eighth New York.

—Company B, First Massachusetts Cavalry, will celebrate its twenty-sixth anniversary on Thursday, March 23.

—The Forty-seventh New York held a battalion drill at the Williamsburgh armory on Monday evening, March 13.

—Lieutenant A. H. Getting, of the Twenty-eighth New York, has resigned.

—George Fries has been elected first lieutenant Company B, Twenty-eighth New York.

—Friday, March 17, the Twenty-third Brooklyn held a battalion drill. Full notice next week.

—The right wing of the Fifty-fourth New York drilled at Rochester, March 15.

—Another wing drill of the Forty-seventh New York took place at the regimental armory March 15.

—The Eighth New York held a battalion drill on Wednesday, March 15.

—The left wing of the Thirty-second New York held battalion drill at the regimental armory March 15.

—The Thirty-second New York received new belts, etc., last week. The cartridge-boxes bear a handsome regimental monogram, the design of Captain Finkelmeier.

—The battalion drill of the Sixty-ninth New York at the State Arsenal on Monday evening, March 13, was well attended, and showed good work.

—On Tuesday evening, March 14, the non-commissioned officers of the Fifth New York were drilled at the armory by Colonel Spencer.

—The Seventy-first New York will continue to occupy their present quarters, the city having leased the armory at an annual rental of \$12,000.

—On April 19 the anniversary of the departure of the Thirtieth New York to the war will be duly honored by this veteran regiment.

—Companies H and C, Twenty-seventh New York, have been consolidated and will be known hereafter as Company B. An election for captain has been ordered for Friday evening March 17.

—Company G, Twenty-seventh New York, was inspected by captains Peck and Carville on the evening of March 10. The company mustered twenty-two files, five sergeants, and three officers. The rifles were in good condition, and drill very fair.

—The first promenade concert of the Twenty-second New York took place at the armory on Saturday evening, March 11. The music, under the leadership of Mr. Gilmore, sustained its already high reputation. The attendance was large. The next concert will be given on March 25.

—On Sunday, March 12, the Vallejo Rifles, of Vallejo, California, shot for the medals promised to the best shots. The Puritans are at a discount in the Pacific States, and they have their day of amusement on Sunday the same as in Mexico, to judge from local papers.

—On Thursday, March 16, there were a number of drills. Battery K, First New York Division, had a school of the drivers at First Division Rendezvous, New York city. The Twenty-eighth New York had a battalion drill, so did the Thirtieth, so did the Fifty-fourth, so did Company K and C, Seventh, and lastly, so did the right wing of the Eleventh.

—On Tuesday evening, March 14, Companies E and F, of the Seventh New York, held their weekly battalion drill at the regimental armory in Tompkins Market, with four companies of twenty files, as usual. The drill needs no comment, as no faults were committed. The system of instruction in the Seventh compels this, and might well be imitated in other regiments.

—The twelfth and final competition for the *Forest and Stream* badges was shot March 4. The first badge has been shot for by the best shots in the city, and Chas. A. Cheever won it for the third time after a very close competition with W. B. Farwell, L. C. Bruce, T. C. Moore, Chas. E. Blydenburgh, Thos. Lloyd, D. L. Beckwith, and many other crack shots. L. V. Stone won the second badge after shooting off a tie with C. G. Peters, who was beaten after a very close match. J. O. Wright won the third badge for the last time.

—The Massachusetts Rifle Association held a meeting for practice at their range on March 11. Best scores: Frost, 69; Yale (of American Team), 67; Noyes, 67; Osgood, 66; Gerrieh, 66; Jackson, 65, and Sanborn, 65. The prizes for the match on the 17th of March are a gold medal and a Colt's revolver; these to be given to the first and second best shots. For the second class, the prizes are a silver medal (similar to the gold), a Colt's revolver, an ammunition case, and the entrance fee; these prizes to be awarded to first, second, fifth, and tenth best shots. The winners of medals on the 22d of February are to be handicapped ten points each. Pool shooting to commence at 9 o'clock.

NEW YORK CHANGES for February, 1876. Commissions.—Lieut. Col. Thomas W. Bradley, A. I. G.; Col. John R. Robbins, engineer, 8th Division; Major Daniel D. Wylie, I. R. P., 3d Brigade; Capt. Jonathan A. Smith, A. D. C.; 1st Lieut. Fitch J. Stranahan, A. D. C., 5th Brigade; 1st Lieut. John Staudenmeier, C. S., Artillery, 25th Brigade; 1st Lieut. Edward L. Nicoll, 2d Lieut. James L. Price, Captain James C. Abrams, 1st Lieut. John M. Amory, and 2d Lieut. William B. Carrington, 7th Inf.; Lieut. Col. Francis A. Schilling, 1st Lieut. William H. Carman, and 2d Lieut. Edwin S. Bennett, 8th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Charles Clemens and Eugene D. Weidman, and 2d Lieut. Frank T. Peck, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Nicholas Narvesen, John Fuchsius, and Henry Vander Wyck, 11th Inf.; 1st Lieut. William H. Kirby, Jr., Capt. John Munroe, and 1st Lieut. David E. Vannett, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. John P. Scrymgeour, Q. M.; Capt. Simon B. Parker, I. R. P.; 1st Lieut. William A. McKee, adjutant, and 1st Lieut. Robert B. Hughes, C. S., 13th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Alexander Barrie, Jr., Q. M., 14th Inf.; Capt. Isaac D. Cole, 16th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Julius R. Schmidt, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. William A. Dillon and Thomas B. Moore, Capt. Andrew Donner, 2d Lieut. Adam Floerke, and 1st Lieut. Jacob Brauning, 25th Inf.; 2d Lieut. George W. Thompson, and Capt. Daniel Corcoran, 27th Inf.; 1st Lieut. John Bettenhauser, 1st Lieut. John Neger, C. S., and Capt. Carl F. E. Ritter, I. R. P., 32d Inf.; 2d Lieut. Charles O. Olcott and Charles Crook, 47th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Walter Stebbins, 48th Inf.; Capt. Daniel F. Shields, 1st Lieut. Robert F. Judge, and 2d Lieut. Michael Keeler, 49th Inf.; Chaplain Frederick Schelle; 1st Lieut. Philip Hoernig, C. S.; 1st Lieut. John A. Bodamer, adjutant; 2d Lieut. Julius L. Lambert, Capt. Frank L. Eberhart, and 1st Lieut. Joseph Viertel, 65th Inf.; Capt. Michael Maguire, and 1st Lieut. Joseph Connor, 69th Inf.; 1st Lieut. George A. Davis, and 2d Lieut. Frank S. Belton, 71st Inf.; Capt. Frank G. Ward, and 1st Lieut. Horace P. Chamberlain, 47th Inf.; Capt. Peter R. Chadwick, 1st Lieut. John W. Brooks, and 2d Lieut. William W. Daw, Sep. Co. Inf., 10th Brigade.

Brevet Commission.—Capt. William Hanbennestel, 21st Inf., major; Capt. and A. C. S. George H. Williams, 21st Inf., major; Capt. Michael Auer, Sep. Troop Cav., 6th Division, major.

RESIGNATIONS.—Col. Smith, 21st; Major Duffy, 69th; Col. Fowler, J. A., 1st Division; Lieut. Ferring, 13th; Lieut. Mulleda, 69th; Major Van Vorst, Insp. 13th Brigade; Capt. Eugert, Artillery, 25th Brigade; 2d Lieut. Sachs and Dunn, 54th; Capt. Hahnenfeld, Lieut. Wenz and Meyer 5th; 2d Lieut. Fries, 28th; Lieut. Covell, 71st; Capt. Brewer, 54th; Lieut. Genah, 11th; Q. M. Walsh, 69th; Capt. Illig, 28th; Lieut. Bacon, 7th; Lieut. Swart, Halligan and Hofele, 8th; Lieut. Helzman, 13th; Capt. Topping, 2d; Capt. Helstern, 32d.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VIGILANTIA.—After this do not write anonymously. The rule at the head of our correspondence columns ought not to be violated. It is in bad taste. To the substance of your letter we answer, take it coolly. We have been giving you time to correct mistakes. Next week you may look out for an exhaustive article on your Friday's drill.

PENNSYLVANIA writes: At inspection arms, when the piece is

returned, Upton says (par. 113) the "recruit receives it with the right hand and resumes the order." In the report of the inspection of Company B, Ninth Massachusetts, in the JOURNAL of March 4, in referring to manual of inspection arms, your correspondent says that "several remained at a carry after their pieces had been returned," which would lead the reader to infer that they should have first come to a carry and then to an order arms. Is that correct? If the order is resumed without first coming to a carry, does the recruit touch the piece with the left hand in the movement? Answer.—No. The order is resumed with right hand only. Our correspondent should have said "came to" instead of "remained at."

PROVIDENCE asks: Does the color guard change arms on the march with the battalion or not? Answer.—We must refer you to sections 115, 185, 187, 188, 189, 334, and 387 of the tactics to clear your mind. Read them all through carefully, and you will have no more trouble. Every page of the new tactics harmonizes, from squad drill to battalion drill. Guides, file-closers, and color guards are excused thereby from certain portions of the manual. These are, for the guides and file-closers, charge bayonet, present, reverse, secure, rest on arms, trail, loadings and firings, and inspection of arms. On occasions of ceremony they present in reverse, rest on arms, and inspect their arms, but only the rendering honors. On drill they change arms to support and right shoulder, except the subdivision guide. He remains always at a carry. At dress parade and in ceremonies they do nothing but carry, order, and present, and do not present after the regiment is turned over. The color guard stands on the same footing, but they execute the firings but never fix bayonets or charge them. Their duty is to keep cool and shoot for the colors, not to poke about with bayonets. On drill they change for their comfort the same as the rest of the battalion.

JUDGE Taft, accompanied by Secretaries Robeson and Chandler, called on the President Saturday morning, March 11, and there met Chief Justice Waite, who administered the oath of office, after which the new Secretary of War proceeded to the War Department and began the duties of his office. He was engaged during the day in making the acquaintance of the officers in charge of the various bureaus, nearly all of whom had business requiring attention. On Monday the officers of the Army in Washington made a formal call on the new Secretary.

THE Washington correspondent of the New York Times reports that on Saturday evenings, Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren is "at home" to invited literary friends, and very interesting literary reunions they are. At the last one, Judge Drake, of the Court of Claims, read a pleasant account of a recent dinner, at which he had endeavored to assemble all the survivors of the voyage to the Mediterranean of forty-six middies, of which he was one. Dr. C. C. Cox, who is as industrious as he is accomplished, read a poem; Mrs. Dorsey contributed an interesting paper on "Sibylline Leaves," and there were recitations and music.

THE House Committee investigating the Secretary of the Navy have, it is reported, examined one hundred and fifty witnesses, and taken more than four thousand pages of testimony. Judging from the fact that the testimony of a single witness filled more than one hundred pages of foolscap, this estimate would seem to be a moderate one, if the number of witnesses is correctly given. The report is that the committee claim to have discovered various transactions, which went beyond the authority of the law; but none so far which justify any other change than that of illegality. The examination is entirely ex parte, the Secretary having no opportunity to cross-examine witnesses if he desired to do so.

A DESPATCH from Port Eads, La., March 5, reports that on the 3d of March a three masted schooner loaded with 2,250 bales of cotton, and drawing 13 feet and 2 inches, went through the South Pass. In making the attempt, however, the vessel was pulled outside the channel, and grounded twice for a short time. She was the first vessel to pass through. Soundings are made constantly, and it is stated that where there were formerly only six or seven or eight feet of water on the bar, there are now 18 and 20 and 23 feet. The work on the jetties, as well as the deepening of the water, it is added, continues satisfactorily, and Capt. Eads has no doubt that on June 14—one year from the time work was first begun—there will be 24 feet of water in the channel.

A CIRCULAR letter from Hdqrs Depart. of the Gulf, March 6, states that it is designed to grant short leaves of absence to such officers of this command as desire to visit the Centennial Exposition during the coming summer, provided their services can be spared. To this end, and with the view of arranging to grant indulgence to the greatest number practicable, Post Commanders are called upon to report the names of officers who design asking for leaves of absence during the Centennial, the length of time they desire to be absent and the dates at which they wish to take advantage of their leaves if granted. This will be welcome news to most officers.

The District of the Upper Red River was March 4 discontinued by S. O. 44, D. Gulf.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL MARIN, of the Engineer Corps of the Spanish army, arrived in New York on Friday of last week in command of a detachment of that corps. Colonel Marin, who comes on official business in connection with the Centennial expedition, was entertained at a dinner by the Spanish residents on Saturday evening. The Spanish Centennial Commissioner, Francisco Lopez Faura, then rose and made a long speech, in which he said that he had come to this country as a commissioner of peace, and to show America what Spain was capable of doing. Spain, through her agents, had first discovered America, and she had aided in its first settlement and civilization. Spanish blood had been spilled upon American soil in the early days of the country, and the commission came to this country at this time to show that they were not enemies but friends of America. Spain was conscious of the great services she had rendered to America, and was confident that her rights and position would be recognized in the approaching Centennial. Under the government of King Alfonso the people had more liberty both of thought and action, and there was now a chance for Spain coming forward to her just position among the leading nations of the world.

THE TURKISH FORCES.

In a late lecture in London, on the Turkish Forces, given by Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Howard Vincent, late of the 23d Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the following analysis of the Turkish Military and Naval Strength, was given by the lecturer: The Ottoman dominions are divided into 120 military conscriptions, and nearly evenly among them are located the seven corps of which the Imperial Army is composed. Following exactly the northern model four units makes up the total of national defence. The standing Army, or Nizam; the reserve, or Tskoliat; the Militia, Landwehr, or Redif; the National Guard, Landsturm, or Mustafiz; representing, without the aid of the latter force, a paper strength of 750,000 men. Make no note, however, of these figures, nor of any indeed taken from Turkish sources which I may adduce. I frame my data from the concurrence of testimony, but cannot even thus hope to be near the mark. There is no doubt that it would be impossible to put more than half a million of Turks into the field. The standing army is recruited by conscription from the Mahomedan population of the Empire, and the conscript thus spells out his twenty years of service: 4 years in the standing army, 2 years in the Reserve, 3 years in the Redif (1st ban), 3 years in the Redif (2nd ban), and 8 years in the Mustafiz. The four years in the standing army are usually reduced to three, or even two—a measure reducing battalion strength, but prudent alike on social and economical grounds. Of the seven corps d'armée, three are stationed in Europe, at Constantinople, Shumla, and Monastir; and four in Asia, at Erzeroum, Bagdad, Damascus, and Sanala. Each corps consists of 7 regiments (28 battalions) of infantry, 5 regiments (30 squadrons) of cavalry, and one regiment (34 guns) of artillery with a theoretical strength of 27,000 men, which in war is supposed to be supplemented by 34 battalions of Redifs. The Turkish infantry may be said to be without its superior in Europe as regards material. It consists of forty-nine regiments with four battalions of eight companies. The system of drill was devised by Hussein Avni Pasha, now Governor of Broussa, but under whose Grand Vizierate and Presidency at the Seraskierat, the flood-gates of improvement opened on the country and the army.

The rapidity with which the Osmanli soldiery move is extraordinary and unparalleled—compact independence, to which the neat yet easy uniform conduces. A fez, blue jacket and waistcoat trimmed with red, scarlet sash around the waist, trousers ample to the middle of the calf, then tight as a gaiter, and running into a soft boot of untanned leather. Such is the dress of gunner, trooper, and linesman. The infantry is completely armed with breech-loading rifles—long Sniders, short Sniders, original, converted, of Tower pattern, of American make, Winchester's, Remington's, Peabody's—every system, I believe, that inventive genius has devised. Rifles, though, are not of themselves engines of destruction. They resent neglect and hard usage. Without cartridges they avail but little, and there is no machinery for issuing the complex ammunition required. In time the Henry-Martini rifles ordered from the Providence Tool Company will be supplied, and more uniformity insured. The Ottoman cavalry consists of thirty-five regiments of six squadrons each, with a supposed complement of 100 men, armed for the most part with Winchester repeating carbine, sword, and pistol. At best, the cavalry partakes considerably of an irregular character. The men are good Oriental horsemen, but the officers are no less untrained for field service than they are by nature unendowed with dash, energy, and spirit. The country is full of smart little horses, but there is no remounting system, and not unfrequently a fourth of the regiment is on foot, and another fourth are on worn-out screws are a remount can be obtained. The Imperial artillery boasts of seven regiments and one in reserve. Each regiment is composed of three horse and nine field batteries of six guns. The former have four pounders, the latter six. The whole of the guns are on Krupp's system and of his manufacture, with the exception of the six mountain guns made by Sir Joseph Whitworth's firm, and the six mitrailleuses attached to each regiment. Not only has the whole of the artillery been provided with breech-loading cannon, but there are sufficient in store to re-arm every battery.

As with the rifles, though, the feeding machinery has been neglected. The guns are there, but ammunition-wagons are to a great extent wanting. The chief deficiency of the Turkish artillery lies, however, in the horses. The native animals are not adapted to the work, and the entire supply has to be drawn from Hungary. An annual commission is sent, and some good animals obtained at prices varying from £25 to £40. But it is on all sides agreed that the Hungarian horse is deficient in stamina, and in many eventualities it is obvious that even this market would be closed. The scarcity of draught horses becomes a more serious thing when the total absence of a transport corps is considered—in a country, moreover, where no levy on the inhabitants could produce any result. There is likewise no regular engineer corps, as the state of the defences throughout the Empire only too clearly shows, and of course both pontoon and telegraph trains are wanting. The medical department of the army, on the other hand, is well organised. The School of Medicine at Pera is turning out excellent graduates—not enough, truly, at present for the requirements of the Service, but in time the German surgeons now in the temporary employ of the Porte will be supplanted by Turkish practitioners. The officers of the Ottoman service form, with the exception of the surgeons, the weakest portion of the entire system. Ill-trained from cradle to school, ill-regulated from school to life's close, they possess, though perhaps not by their fault, few physical or moral virtues. Forced to discount their pay at ruinous rates, the majority live from hand to mouth, and military proficiency meets with but scant reward. The staff hardly

deserves the name, although some of its members receive a kind of special training, so small is it numerically; so weak, for the most part, intellectually; so indolent physically. The military schools of the Empire form the peculiar pleasure of the Sultan. The shortcomings of Turkish officers are in no way traceable to any deficiency in the means of education. The schools are of two categories—primary, giving a general education, and receiving boys for four years between the ages of twelve and eighteen, secondary, receiving students under sixteen years of age, and after a four years' course drafting them into the army. I visited a school of each character in detail, and many as now are the military colleges in Europe that I have visited, I never found a better system in any country. Now as to the Imperial navy, twenty-six iron-clads, embracing every description of battery, but with, I understand, too thin plating for these days. The officers are *au complet*, the men about half. How far either the former or the latter are fit for sea, I will not presume to opine. Practice in navigation they certainly never have. All the year round this glorious fleet lies in idle state in front of the Imperial palace. The Sultan gazes thereon from the presence room of Dolma Bagtche, and believes when he is told that he rules the world. There are none in his service who will undeceive him. He knows no foreign language, and the Turkish prints are under the censor. Financial difficulties are unknown; dreams of troubles to come do not disturb the Imperial slumber. Summing up his opinion of the Turkish forces, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent said: The men are admirable, but the officers very imperfect. The guns are numerous, but there are no horses to drag them. The rifles are of the best type, and enough of them to give one to each Mussulman in Stamboul, but there are no cartridges. Truly the engines are ready, but there is no motive power. The ally of Turkey will have to supply it. Officers, horses, wagons, ammunition, method must be provided before the Turkish forces are really fitted for European service.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

METZ is to receive a cavalry division.

In the shoe exhibition to be opened on the 11th of June next, at Berne, a special department will be devoted to military foot gear.

THE Russians have begun a novel vessel for coast defence. The new ship is not to carry any guns, but it is to be armored with exceedingly thick and massive iron, and to be armed with a strong spar. She is also to be fitted with an arrangement for employing torpedoes offensively, and is to be capable of steaming at a rate of fifteen knots.

THE following is a list of the dead of the German artillery at some of the most important engagements, as taken from "Die Deutsche Artillerie in den Schlachten und Treffen des Deutsch-Französischen Krieges, 1870-71." Worth, 9 men; Sedan, 13 men; Mars la Tour, 5 officers, 73 men; Gravelotte, 9 officers, 86 men; Noisseville, 3 officers, 20 men.

THE *L'Italie Militaire* publishes the following statistics: "In the (Italian) army there are at present 133 generals, 1,226 staff officers, and 9,927 captains and lieutenants. The mobile militia reports 3,359, the substitutes 1,445, and the reserves 1,826 officers. The military training schools also contain an unusually large number of students for the ensuing year."

THERE are at present in hand, or decided upon, some forty additions to the British fleet, of types varying from the ironclad to the torpedo boat. Of armored vessels there are but six now building, while of the unarmored classes there are 34. The total cost of these vessels, exclusive of the charges incurred at the dockyards in bringing them forward for commission, will amount to rather more than \$24,000,000, but this charge is spread over several years.

ALTHOUGH, says *Broad Arrow*, the *Vanguard* is entered on the admiralty books at Devonport amongst the ships of the Steam Reserve, she still lies comfortably in the Irish Channel, and there is no truth in the suggestion that Captain Prince Leiningen has been transferred from the royal yacht to the *Vanguard*. There would be a poetic justice in the appointment, but poetry and justice alike seem at present out of favor at the admiralty.

MAJOR H. G. Prout, of the Egyptian army, an ex-American engineer, has made a report, says the *Engineer*, of his exploring expedition from a point on the Nile above Khartoum westward to El Obeiyad, in Kordofan, which has been published in the Egyptian official journal and copied in a well-known French geographical paper, *l'Explorateur*. He gives special attention to the geographical features of the country and its capacity for production. He reports that a railroad could be constructed over it with little difficulty, but from the account of the country it is not easy to see what a railroad would have to carry there. Major Prout is reported to have made extensive surveys of Kordofan, heretofore hardly known except by name. He has command of the expedition formerly under Colonel Colston.

SEVERAL new iron-clad gunboats have been built for the Argentine Republic, nearly all of which are commanded by officers belonging to the English Royal navy, who have been granted leave by the admiralty to instruct the crews in seamanship and gunnery. Two of these vessels have recently sailed for Buenos Ayres, named the *Constitucion* and the *Republica*, commanded respectively by Captain Fred-

erick W. Hallows, R. N., and Lieutenant English, R. N. These gunboats are of a most powerful class, draw only 8 feet of water, are fitted with twin screws, and attain a speed of nearly 10 knots. They are of 450 tons, and each carries a 264-ton 11-in. muzzle-loading rifled gun, which is loaded by hydraulic machinery. They expect to arrive at their destination by the end of February, calling at Lisbon, Cape Verde, and Bahia for coal.

A most simple little instrument for setting-out angles of 90 deg. and 45 deg. has lately been invented by a Spanish naval engineer, Inspector of Machinery (2nd Class) Don Casimir de Bora. It is likely to prove handy and serviceable in route-sketching, coast surveys, and the like. It is a small tube—small enough to be concealed in the hollow of the hand. The end applied to the eye is flat, and provided with two eye-holes. At the opposite extremity of the tube is fixed a rectangular strip of glass, one half of which is silvered to form a mirror, and the other half plain, and which forms an angle of 56 deg. 15 min. with the axis of the tube. The observer aligns himself with an object by looking at it through the unsilvered portion; then, the appearance by reflexion of some other object on the silvered portion shows that a line joining the observer's standpoint with such second object forms with the alignment an angle either of 90 deg. or 45 deg., according to the particular eye-hole through which the observer is looking.

SOME interesting experiments have lately been made at Courbevoie, to test the practicability of employing pigeons to establish a communication between a vessel in distress and the shore. The experiments were under the direction of M. le Commandant Puy de Podio, the author of a treatise on the "Military Uses of the Homing-Pigeon." The idea is, when a vessel is in difficulties near land, to release the pigeon, to which a thread-line of sufficient length has been attached. The bird will naturally make for the nearest point of land, the more so as the wind will probably be in its favor. In darkness, a strong light will sometimes prove an additional attraction to it. The thread so brought to shore is to be used in drawing a light line, which, in its turn, will be made to draw a stouter one, until a hawser can be got on shore. It is maintained that the probabilities of establishing a communication with the shore by this means, are greater than by the ordinary way of endeavoring to throw a line, by mortar or rocket apparatus from the shore, over a small and shifting object, like a vessel, and probably in the teeth of the wind and in darkness. Vessels would, of course, have to carry a few caged pigeons, if the method were adopted. In the experiments, a thread, 125 metres (65 fathoms) long, and 0.0007 metre (3-100th inch) in diameter, was attached to the bird. The experiments are to be repeated.

At a recent review of the army of Maharajah Scindiah by the Prince of Wales, a correspondent writes: "Scindiah, at the head of a brilliant group of cavalry, rode to meet the Prince, his cap blazing with jewels, with egret plume rising from a diamond socket. He wore a scarlet tunic, with facings of gold and gems, and the Order of the Star of India. His charger was gorgeously caparisoned with an egret and golden pheasant plumes set on the crest. The Prince and Scindiah rode down the lines side by side, while bands were playing and colors lowered. The Prince and his suite returning to the saluting post, the march past commenced in European fashion. First came the general staff, next Scindiah alone at the head of his troops. As he passed the Prince he saluted, the first time he has ever done so. He was followed by ten staff officers riding abreast. Next the artillery staff, first a horse-troop, with six-pounder smooth bores, went by admirably in line. Another artillery troop followed equally well. Then two nine-pounder field batteries, each gun drawn by six bullocks drilled to perfection, and the humpas dressed to a nicety. The band struck up the Gwalior version of Garryowen, as Appia Sahib, brigadier of cavalry, and staff appeared, leading a very showy corps of that arm, the first regiment in the uniform of Close's old corps of the Gwalior contingent in red tunics, breeches, jack-boots, and Afghan turbans. The second regiment wore blue tunics, and red turbans, a squadron of the Third regiment of Hussars; the fourth a regiment of Lancers in ultramarine blue, with pennants of black and red. Each regiment was 400 strong. The five regiments of infantry which followed were far superior to many Sepoy battalions, but they were armed with smooth-bore-percussion muskets. The men were far taller than British infantry, well set-up, and steady. The Horse Artillery went by at full gallop in line of batteries in excellent fashion. Next the cavalry charged in line, the first regiment steadily, the second very fast, the Lancers at full speed. When the dust cleared off several troopers were seen to be dismounted. On the broken ground that was no wonder."

THIS is the way they put it in England. Compare with American naval affairs and be grateful it's no worse: Two hundred millions, voted for the construction and maintenance of the new navy, and 20 years given for the completion of this national work, is a large responsibility, now to be accounted for. How many large fleets could be constructed with £100,000,000 sterling?—Answer, 200 of the finest

men-of-war! Where are they?—Where! What has become of the money? To this I reply: 1. Much of it was spent on quite other matters than the creation of a navy. 2. No plan of a navy, no system of fleets, no reorganization of the service was ever proposed, or ever laid before Parliament, or ever settled, or ever adopted. The money was spent without settled purpose, plan, or will. 3. As no plan of the new navy was formed, as no method for its construction was organized, as no means for its creation were systematically provided, so it came that Admiralty after Admiralty, and officer after officer followed out each their own crotchets, indulged each their own whims, enjoyed each their own preferences, spent each a few millions year by year, and contentedly reported to the public year by year that the fleet was being constructed, and that England was "going ahead!" 4. What has become of £200,000,000, expended on a navy which does not exist, is a serious question. "We have been feeling our way," is one answer. "We have been making experiments," is another. "We have been building up big guns out of little bits of iron and steel," is another. We have been trying turrets, and trying broadsides, and armor-plating water-lines, and seeing how thick a plate would resist so long a bullet. This and thus, and so on.

PRELIMINARY trials, says *Iron*, have now been completed with a new experimental field gun, designed in the Royal Gun Factories at Woolwich. It is of the same weight as the 9-pounder, viz. 8 cwt., and of the same external size and appearance, but so modified in other respects that instead of a 9 lb. shot it will carry a projectile weighing about 13 lb., while the powder charge will be at the same time increased from 1 lb. 13 oz. to 3 lb. The calibre of the bore has been slightly increased from 3 inches to 3.2 inches, and the chamber has been specially contrived to carry a special cartridge, so as to consume profitably a large charge of powder in so small a gun. In the experiments which have taken place a poly-groove system of rifling has been adopted, and the new gas-check has been employed to follow the grooves in the place of the usual studs, and thereby create the necessary rotation, after the plan of Captain Blakely. The result has been greatly to increase the range of the gun, as well as the power of the shell. The velocity obtained has, with a special powder, reached as high as 1700 feet per second, and in the final trials, it has been shown that, with an elevation of 5 deg., a range of 3,000 yards can be depended upon. A complete revolution in the national field artillery may result from these experiments. Some other novelties in gunnery are being introduced by Mr. Hotchkiss, an American inventor. He is now in treaty with the French government for the manufacture of a revolving cannon, something on the Gatling principle, only that it is to carry shots of 1 lb. weight, and he is now anxious to extend his system of breech loading to the English field guns. For this purpose he has had a gun made by Mr. Vavasseur, a steel breech-loader of about 8 cwt., which, except in having a wedge, does not differ in any important degree from the ordinary shoulder sporting rifle with the central fire. This has been fired at the Royal Arsenal proof butts, and appears to have obtained a fair amount of success.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Tribune*, who writes from Cairo, January 11, reports that some Russian general has, it appears, been intriguing against the Americans, but his prospects of success are not brilliant. Apart from very cogent reasons, the Viceroy's sense of justice, not to speak of his generous

disposition, would not allow him to throw overboard the men who have reorganized his War Office, created his staff, trained his troops, and established his military schools. Six years ago the Egyptian army was without a staff, and the present War Office was an abandoned dwelling. Now the War Department is on a footing which, though not so extensive, would do credit, in so far as its working is concerned, to any European Power. The first section, under the control of Major W. B. Hall, has charge of papers; second section, under Lieutenant-Colonel Mori, is the printing department; third section, Colonel Locket, engineering, surveying and drafting; fourth section, vacant; fifth section, Major Martin, military administration; sixth section, Colonel W. H. Ward, material of war. The exploring parties in the interior are all conducted by American officers. Colonel Purdy has been for nearly a year out at Darfur in command of eight Arab officers and subalterns, with whom he has explored from Dongola on the Nile to the centre of Darfur. Colonel Colston, with seven Arab officers, has been exploring from the Nile at Debbe to the centre of Khordofan. Unfortunately Colston fell dangerously ill, and is now on his way back. He is replaced by Major Proute. Colonel Long, who served under Colonel Gordon, made an expedition from Gondokoro down to Lake Victoria and back. He discovered Lake Ibrahim, lying between Lakes Albert and Victoria, and found that the river was navigable for a long distance between the two lakes, and confirms and completes Speke's observations. Major Mitchell is exploring the country at the back of Zeila, beyond the Red Sea. Colonel Ward is surveying out at Cape Gardafui, with the view of discovering mines and fixing the geography. From the reports made by these officers, the map of Egypt is being rectified. The schools established under the direction of American officers, notably by Generals Stone, Loring, and Reynolds, have given excellent results. The common soldiers have been obliged to learn to read and write their own language, and their children, instead of grovelling in the dust all day or playing like mud-larks on the banks of the Nile, receive a good elementary education. The army is becoming popular. Formerly soldiers could only be obtained by conscription; now men volunteer to serve. A splendid military school, with accommodation for 600 boarders, is in course of construction in the new quarter of Cairo called Ismailia. It will contain a fine library, billiard room, drill room, European and Turkish baths, and will cost \$800,000. The painting of this academy will cost over \$30,000. Among other buildings which as yet are only projected, is a cavalry barracks on the Abassieh road, Cairo, the frontage of which will be 1,040 meters. This is only a bald sketch of the work which is being done here by American officers, and merely gives an idea of their value to the Khedive. I have heard that General Stone has been attacked in an American paper for not doing his best to advance his brother officers. It must not be forgotten that General Stone, as commander of the staff, owes his first duty to the Khedive. It does not appear that the general has become so thoroughly Turk as to forget his own countrymen, as several of them of recognized worth have been advanced in rank since they have been in the Egyptian service. No doubt some have been disappointed. There always have existed and always will exist, I suppose, a class of men who value themselves higher than they are esteemed by others. From that class of men we get the "disappointed man," who is the most disagreeable creature imaginable.

The same correspondent gives an account of the Egyptian expedition which was to start from Masso-

wah about the middle of January, to march into Abyssinia as far as Adowa. "The expedition consists of about 15,000 infantry and a few hundred cavalry with troops of camels and mules, and three batteries of artillery. The commander-in-chief is Ratib Pasha, a Circassian, who rendered himself notable in the time of the late Viceroy, Said Pasha, by attempting suicide because he had been publicly insulted by his august master. The ball he fired at himself passed upward through his nose, and to this day in giving the word of command to his troops he is obliged to stop the orifice in his nasal organ with his finger. Ratib Pasha distinguished himself also on the field of battle. In reality the command of the expedition is in the hands of Gen. Loring. He is accompanied by several American officers, Cols. Dye, Field, Derrick, Major Loss, Capt. Porter, and Dr. Wilson. The other officers of the expedition are all Circassians. The soldiers are, of course, Arabs. They are well drilled, neatly dressed in white uniforms cut in the zouave fashion, and look like tough fighting men. The Abyssinians, under King John, are supposed to number about 80,000, half of whom are said to be armed with modern weapons. When the English invaded Abyssinia, in 1868, they had the friendship of all the tribes except that of Theodore, against whom they were operating, and their famous march to Magdala was only a triumph of engineering skill and military foresight. The Viceroy cannot count upon the friendship of any of the so-called Christian tribes in Abyssinia.

The final result of this expedition is thus reported by telegraph from Cairo, Monday, March 13. The telegram says: On Wednesday night last the Abyssinian army crossed the river Dekka, and attacked the entrenched camp of the Egyptian army, when severe fighting took place. On Thursday the Abyssinians were repulsed and retreated to Adowa. King Kassa, the Grand Vizier, six chiefs, and 5,000 Abyssinians are reported to have been killed in the trenches. Prince Hassan and Gen. Loring escaped unhurt. Rhatib Pasha was wounded. The Egyptian losses were heavy, but the victory was complete.

"Pure as a dew-drop glittering in the spray" are the beautiful PARISIAN DIAMONDS, their surface being a veneering of diamond of the first water. RICHARD HUMPHREYS, jeweller, No. 779 Broadway, New York, opposite Stewart's, sole agent for the United States. Goods sent C. O. D., with privilege to examine before paying for them. Send for descriptive price list.

Druggists say that the sale of Dick's Tasteless Medicines is increasing rapidly.

BEAUTIFUL BROWN OR BLACK, no previous wash, BOSWELL & WARNER'S "COLORIFIC FOR THE HAIR." All druggists. Depot No. 9 Dey st., New York.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each, and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

BAXTER-TRYON.—On the 9th instant, in Boston, by the Rev. C. A. Bartol, assisted by the Rev. S. H. Winkley, Col. J. H. BAXTER, Chief Medical Purveyor, U. S. Army, to Miss FLORENCE TRYON, of Boston.

DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

GRAHAM.—At Erie, Pa., on the sixth instant, after three days' illness, of pneumonia, Lieutenant WALLACE GRAHAM, U. S. A., aged 33, son of John A. and Helen Beckman Graham, of this city.

HOTELS.

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